GMA to open RP air space, bases in war on terror

STORY ON PAGE A16

Sunday LIFESTYLE
- Playtime with Assunta and Alessandra de Rossi / E1
- Fashion in flight: PAL uniforms through the years / C6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

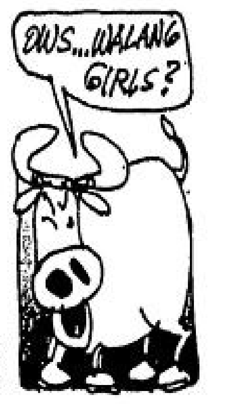
Wholesome fun only for US troops

By D. Z. Pazzibugan

THINK of Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu as an impresario on the side.

To keep American

WHOLESOME/A15


OWS...WALANG GIRLS?

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US aid gives Rangers hope

Filipino and American soldiers learn something from each other

JOINT RP-US medical exercise at the Camp Navarro Hospital at the Southcom headquarters in Zamboanga City where Marcus Christopher of the 59th Medical Wing assists medical chief, Col. Joselito Castro (left), to treat the wounds of a Cafgu member who was mistaken for an Abu Sayyaf bandit on Friday. *(Story on page A4.)* DENNIS SABANGAN

CABUNBATA RANGER CAMP, Basilan—Twenty-six elite soldiers snake stealthily into a skirmish line, then open fire at three gunmen approaching through chest-high ferns.

The machine-gunner yells "rat-tat-tat" as riflemen grunt in staccato, aiming unloaded rifles at buddies posing as Abu Sayyaf bandits for the exercise.

Welcome to the forward base and training camp of the renowned Philippine Scout Rangers in the Basilan jungle—a maze of bamboo huts, hammocks and laundry lines echoing with crows from dozens of fighting cocks.

Unfortunately, the country's elite military unit can't afford blanks during training. In battle, the frontline troops use 30-year-old radios, drive 20-year-old jeeps and rely on informants who walk for hours or days to report enemy sightings.

The combat veterans—among 1,200 Filipino soldiers to be trained by US Special Forces in the coming months—hope counterterrorism classes and a $100-million US military aid package will change all that.

About 660 US soldiers are to teach Filipino soldiers how to better fight the Abu Sayyaf group, which has been linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network, and rescue American missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham from eight months in captivity.

Even so, the Rangers reckon the Americans can also learn a few things from their experience at the frontline.

About 220 American soldiers are already in Western Mindanao for "Balikatan 02-1," the controversial RP-US training exercise that formally began Thursday. The rest of the US troops are to arrive over the next few weeks.

Some will teach night helicopter flying and other specialized skills. About 160 US Special Forces in full battle gear will also accompany the Philippine Scout Rangers and other units into combat zones. But the Americans will be allowed to fire back at the enemy in self-defense.

"We have all the combat experience any commander could want," says Capt. Montano Almodovar, who has spent five of

US/A16

Thanks to Gift of Life, Jerden ready to go home

By Donna S. Cueto

AFTER her last checkup at a New York hospital today, 2-year-old Jerden and her widowed mother Eden Sampang are ready to return home to Olongapo City.

Jerden had a successful heart surgery at the Montefiore Medical Center in New York on Jan. 24, where doctors corrected her "atrial septal defect" sponsored by the Gift of Life Foundation Rotary Club District 7490 in New Jersey.

Jerden was discharged three days after surgery, which was hailed as a Gift of Life record.

Jerden is the Gift of Life Rotary District 7490's second Filipino beneficiary for free surgery. Two-year-old Dajed Montojo had a valve homograft transplant in Montefiore earlier.

A day after they arrived in New Jersey on Jan.15, Jerden had to be treated for pneumonia before she could go into surgery.

Jerden and Eden, who were denied a visa by the US Embassy in Manila when they applied in December last year, got their visas on Jan. 7 after the chief of the US Embassy's non-immigrant visa section reviewed Jerden's case upon reading about it in the INQUIRER.

"Our aim is not to deprive a child of needed treatment, but, in all medical cases, we have to be sure that the treatment is paid for and provided without the need for public assistance in the US," Stuart Patt, the US Embassy's non-

THANKS/A15

Pope names Bicolano papal nuncio

PROUD moment for Yllana with Pope John Paul II before presen-ting his family for a private audience at the Vatican.

By Juan Escandor Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

NAGA CITY—The Vatican has appointed a Filipino prelate papal nuncio, equivalent to the rank of an ambassador, to Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

Only the second Filipino to be so honored, Archbishop Adolfo Tito C. Yllana, 54, is a native of this city. He will celebrate a thanksgiving Mass on Feb. 6, his birthday, at the Naga Basilica Minore. He was appointed to the post on Dec. 13 last year.

The first Filipino papal nuncio is Archbishop Oswaldo Padilla who's now posted in Nigeria.

Yllana was also assigned titular archbishop of Montecorvino and received Episcopal Consecration from Pope John Paul II in the Patriarchal Basilica of St. Peter at the Vatican on Jan. 6.

POPE/A16

Greenhouse farming yields botanical Utopia

GOD'S own greenery: The 2.8-hectare Farm of Galilee in Silang, Cavite, where the harvest of even out-of-season fruits and vegetables is plentiful and delectable. JOAN BONDOC

By Volt Contreras

AFTER 21 years as a Makati-based corporate lawyer, Daisy P. Arce took time off and found "therapeutic" serenity in cultivating some of the most pampered crops ever to grow on Philippine soil.

Arce is now president of a corporation that runs a 2.8-hectare farm in Silang, Cavite, and part of a budding sub-industry that might just be what the local agriculture sector needs to catch up with the 21st century.

Greenhouse farming—or the science of growing crops in an enclosed, technologically protected environment—has enabled Arce's Farm of Galilee to harvest export-quality fruits and vegetables.

The year-old farm is now producing bell peppers that can pass for luscious apples if not viewed close enough, as well as melons that dissolve in sweetness in the mouth. Up for harvest are lettuce, zucchini and toma-

GREENHOUSE/A16

JOAN BONDOC

WORTHY of gourmet's respect, bell peppers and their proud owner, Galilee farm owner, Daisy Arce.

Second FRONT PAGE

Gov't to fight Sandigan ruling

THE PRESIDENTIAL Commission on Good Government and the Office of the Solicitor General yesterday said they intend to challenge a surprise court decision that rejected the government's claim to $660 million in funds allegedly salted away in Swiss banks by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

The PCGG, the special agency tasked with recovering Marcos' stolen wealth, and the Solgen are readying a petition before the Supreme Court questioning the decision of the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court.

The government filed a civil suit in 1997 to confiscate the Swiss funds, alleging that while in power, Marcos stashed wealth stolen from state coffers in bogus foundations in Swiss banks.

In September 2000, the Sandiganbayan ruled that the funds were ill-gotten and ordered them forfeited in favor of the government.

But in a reversal last Friday, the court ruled that "there is no proof on the record that the money in escrow from the Swiss banks" were really owned by the Marcos family.

The Sandiganbayan said the PCGG failed to present "authenticated translations" of rulings of the Swiss Federal Supreme Court declaring that the money belonged to the Marcoses and that much of it was of "illegal provenance."

PCGG Commissioner Jorge Sarmiento disputed this, saying that they had given to the Sandiganbayan the authenticated copies of the ruling of the Swiss Federal Supreme Court.

"We had already given it to them... as far as I can recall, in 1991," he said.

"Those were authenticated copies that were given to the anti-graft court. Where are they?" he said.

Sarmiento said the Sandiganbayan's decision "further prolonged what was due to the Filipino people a long, long time ago."

Under the Sandiganbayan ruling, the $660 million will revert to the Vibur, Avertina, Maler and Palmy foundations in whose names the bank accounts are kept.

The government has alleged that these foundations were set up by Marcos to hide ownership of his stolen wealth.

The deposits were transferred into a Philippine National Bank escrow account by the Swiss Federal Supreme Court in 1997.

Under the escrow agreement with the Swiss judiciary, the bank deposits are to be released to the party that the Philippine courts declares to be the legal owners.

These funds make up the crown jewel of the fallen president's alleged $10-billion embezzled fortune, which has been subject to 16 years of litigation.

Despite years of investigations, no Marcos relative or ally has been jailed for the massive corruption that took place under his regime.

The PCGG has so far recovered P79 billion of Marcos money and assets, mostly through out-of-court settlements with his self-confessed dummies.

But PCGG commissioner Ruben Carranza said the Sandiganbayan's reversal of its earlier decision would not affect the escrow funds.

"The escrow will stay. There is no effect (on the accounts) one way or the other," he said.

The only substantial consequence of the decision is that this would "prolong the litigation" of the forfeiture case against the Marcos heirs.

"We have the option to go to the Supreme Court," Carranza said.

With the recent Sandigan-bayan decision, lawyers of the human rights victims who had won a landmark $2 billion judgment against the Marcos estate in the United States said the victims could now even claim the $660 million.

"All we have to do is to prove that the funds belong to the Marcoses," said lawyer Rod Domingo Jr.

But the lawyers for now are concentrating on the $30 million Arelma funds already in the US, and therefore covered by the US court's jurisdiction.

Arelma was one of the foundations allegedly set up by Marcos to hide stolen wealth.

"The recent decision of the Sandiganbayan demonstrates the folly of the Philippine government in trying to gain closure over the Marcos wealth through the Philippine judiciary," the rights victims' US-based lawyer Robert Swift noted.

"After 16 years and the administrations of four presidents, the result is the same: stalemate. Every solicitor general and every chairman of the PCGG talks tough but does not get the job done," he said.

Swift said the Sandiganbayan's recent decision meant "many more years and countless legal fees (would) be spent trying to adduce proof that is illusory."

"In the meantime, money that could compensate families of victims of human rights violations and balance the Philippine budget lies in an escrow account overseas," Swift said. ***AFP with a report from Donna S. Cueto***

Garchitorena told: Clear backlog or quit

By M. Ubac

THE SUPREME Court has dared suspended Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena to resign if he could not clear his backlog of cases in six months.

The high court issued the challenge as it rejected with finality on Thursday Garchitorena's motion for reconsideration of the SC's suspension order.

"If he cannot meet his responsibilities and discharge his primordial duty of deciding cases, then he must know his inexorable duty to do what he demanded or required of other justices of the Sandiganbayan," said the SC.

In a strongly worded decision written by Associate Justice Bernardo Pardo, the full court unanimously castigated Garchitorena for questioning his suspension and the P20,000-fine imposed by the SC.

"To whom much is given, much is expected and required. PJ (Presiding Justice) Garchitorena cannot recuse himself from the task of preparing decisions and resolutions by pointing out that he was pre-occupied with other matters," the SC said.

"Decision-making is the primordial duty of a member of the bench. No other matter can be more important than decision-making, certainly, not reviewing vouchers and attending to incoming mail."

The SC suspended Garchitorena on Nov. 28 after the SC Clerk of Court found that the Sandigan First Division, of which Garchitorena is the chair, had the bulk of the backlog (341 cases); the backlog cases date as far back as 10 years ago; and the anti-graft court had no accurate filing and recording system of cases, an administrative task under the direction and control of the presiding justice.

The SC said administrative sanctions must be imposed on Garchitorena since "Mora reprobatur in lege (delay is reprobated in law)."

The order was handed down amidst a word war between Garchitorena and Sandiganbayan Third Division chair Anacleto Badoy Jr., who had claimed that the former asked him to step down.

Badoy was later asked by the high court to go on an indefinite leave.

The suspension order imposed on Garchitorena was based on three grounds. First, the SC ruled that cases submitted for resolution must be decided within 3 months, not 12 months, from submission.

Second, SC Administrative circular 10-94 (dealing on the reglementary period and judicial audit) is applicable to the Sandigan.

Third, the SC relieved him of his administrative duties "to give him time to devote himself solely to decision-making."

In his motion for reconsideration filed on Dec. 21, Garchitorena asked that the judgment be "modified and reconsidered." He likewise asked that the fine imposed on him be set aside.

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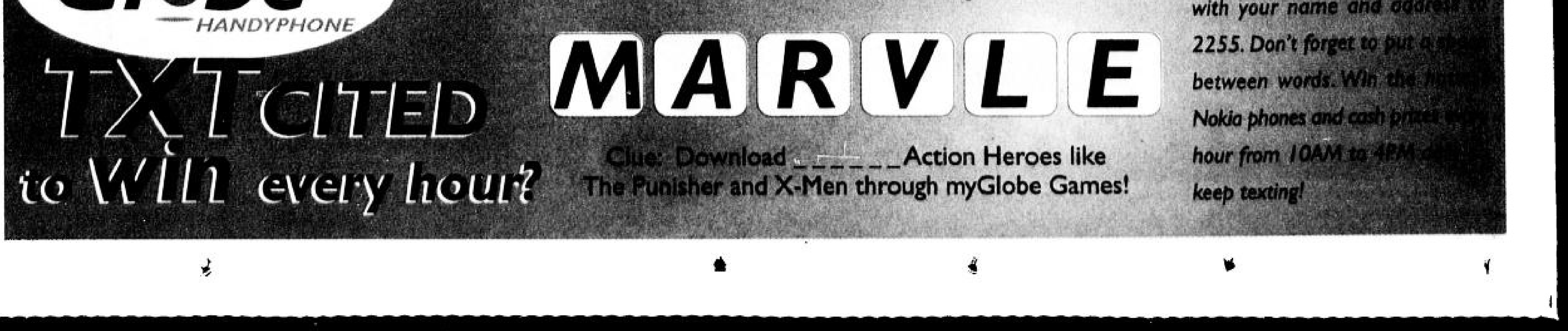

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Pimentel bats for 'fool-proof' nat'l ID system

By Cynthia D. Balana

SENATE Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday pushed for a National Identification System (NIS) that will replace all kinds of IDs being issued by various government agencies.

Pimentel said that a fool-proof, "all-purpose" national ID should be issued to every Filipino citizen and an alien residing in the country.

He proposed that the National Statistics Office (NSO) be authorized to administer the NIS with a funding of P500 million from the national treasury. The NSO is also the repository of birth certificates.

"As a matter of fact, the ID card that I have in mind will serve as one's identification for all legal transactions, whether for claiming mail from the post office or applying for loans in any bank," Pimentel said.

Pimentel said that a national ID can be used in securing a passport from the Department of Foreign Affairs without necessarily presenting a birth certificate.

It will also essentially serve as the holder's voter's ID card that must be presented at the polling precinct in order to vote.

He said it would be easier for the board of election inspectors in every polling precinct to detect spurious or flying voters by merely presenting the ID.

At present, government agencies that issue ID cards to their members of clients include the Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, National Health Insurance Corp., Land Transportation Office, Pag-Ibig Fund and the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Senate President Franklin Drilon earlier expressed support for the consolidation of all IDs into a single national ID since this would be less expensive on the part of the government.

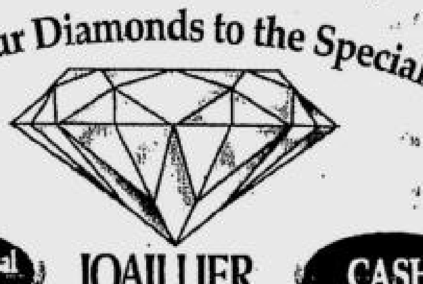
Pimentel said that NIS would require the integration of the ID cards of all government agencies.

He quelled fears that the national ID system may be used by unscrupulous law enforcers or government investigators to pry into the private lives of the people because of the data on the holder's personal circumstances that will be contained in the ID card.

"There is no reason why anyone should feel disturbed over the proposal because the items that I want to include in the ID card are matters that nobody can deny," he said.

As proposed, the ID card will contain the following data: the holder's name, date of birth, place of birth, names of parents, place of residence, photograph, signature and permanent identification number.

He said the card may also contain the holder's telephone number so that his family can be easily notified in case anything happens to him or her.



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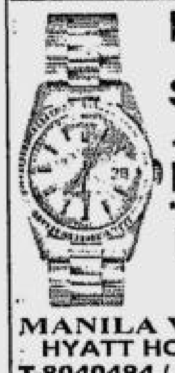

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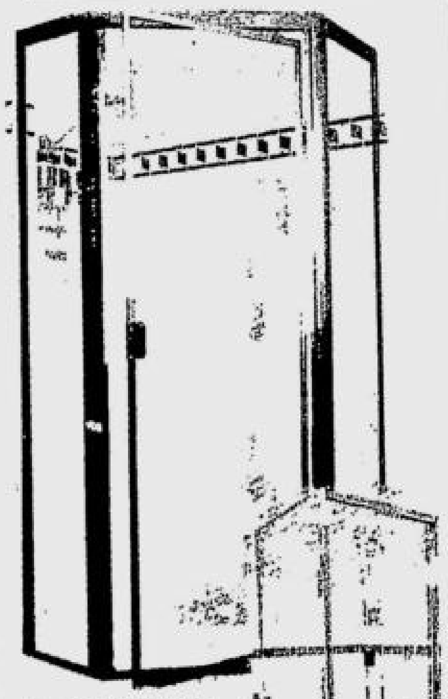

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Guingona sidelined; Gloria is in charge

By Christine Herrera

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo had effectively sidelined Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. before the National Security Council sat down to decide the constitutionality of the deployment of some 660 United States troops in the country.

Documents obtained by the INQUIRER show that the foreign secretary's authority to monitor military exercises had been clipped after the President overturned Executive Order 199 signed by her predecessor and issued EO 67 which allowed her to take full control of the Visiting Forces Agreement Commission.

The commission, created on Jan. 17, 2000 and chaired by the Foreign Affairs Secretary, was given the duty of strictly monitoring compliance with the provisions of the Visiting Forces Agreement by the Philippine and US governments regarding the treatment of visiting US forces.

Under the provisions of EO 199, Guingona as VFACom chair had the authority to designate a senior DFA official as Executive Director of the commission, who would also report directly to the chairman (or the DFA Secretary).

In Ms Macapagal's revised EO 67, however, the President is given the authority to designate a senior official from the Office of the President as Executive Director of the Commission who is then made to report directly to the President.

EO 67 was signed by Ms Macapagal on Jan. 22, the day before the NSC meeting was convened on Jan. 23. It took effect immediately upon signing.

It was during the NSC meeting that the power to approve the extended stay of the 660 US troops was resolved and transferred from Guingona to the President.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez, the President's official legal adviser, ruled that being the "architect of foreign policy," the President has the right to sign the approval of the "Balikatan" joint military exercises involving the 660 US troops.

DFA officials interviewed by the INQUIRER said they were not aware of the existence of EO 67.

From New York where he is part of the President's official party, Press Undersecretary Roberto Capco contended that EO 67 only reduced the number of the VFACom's members from 10 to 3, consisting of the foreign affairs, defense and social welfare secretaries.

"The commission had too many members," said Capco who maintained that Guingona was still chair of the commission.

As of yesterday, a Guingona appointee, former Ambassador to Laos Jaime Yambao remained VFACom Executive Director and was continuing to monitor the military exercises.

He said there should be nothing controversial about EO 67 as the VFACom has always been under the Office of the President.

Traveling press usec loses turf

A TUG of war is on at the Office of Press Secretary.

Press Secretary Noel Cabrera last week took back from one of his undersecretaries, Bobby Capco, control of the Philippine Information Agency.

Cabrera issued on Jan. 30 Department Order 002 recalling Capco's authority to oversee the PIA.

The agency had been under Capco's direct control since PIA chief Dave Gomez suddenly resigned last year.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had appointed Presidential Management Staff chief Silvestre Afable concurrent PIA chief.

Capco is undersecretary for operations and print.

"In the exigency of the service, OPS Department Order 008 series 2001 is hereby amended so that the daily operations of the PIA are not placed under the first line supervision of the Press Undersecretary for operations/print," Cabrera said in his order.

He said Afable should now report directly to him since the Press Secretary is the one mandated to have supervision and control over the PIA according to Administrative Order 49 which President Corazon Aquino issued on Nov. 20, 1987.

Cabrera when interviewed tried to downplay the diminished powers of Capco.

He said he merely followed the organizational setup of the OPS and its line agencies, including the PIA.

He admitted that he had not yet informed Capco, who joined the President's trip to United Kingdom, Canada and the United States.

He denied that he eased out Capco due to controversies surrounding him.

Gomez, according to Palace insiders, resigned due to Capco's meddling in the PIA's affairs.

Cabrera said they are still looking for Gomez's permanent replacement.

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DEFENSE Secretary Angelo Reyes discusses with US Chargé d'Affaires Robert Fitts the conduct of the RP-US Balikatan 02-1 exercises which opened on Thursday at the AFP Southern Command Headquarters in Zamboanga City.

Who fired at US plane? AFP can't say it's NPA

By TJ Burgonio

THE MILITARY has not been able to establish who fired shots at a US Air Force transport plane flying a training mission over Northern Luzon last Thursday, but said it is seriously looking into the involvement of the communist New People's Army in the attack.

The NPA, meantime, continued to strongly deny any part in the shooting.

"We are still trying to determine who perpetrated the shooting incident and, of course, we have the NPA and criminal elements who are the natural suspects," said Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes in an ambush interview.

Reyes said the incident stressed the need for both the US and Philippine sides taking part in the joint military exercises to tighten security in the wake of the shooting.

"Whether it's Balikatan or Balanced Piston, the commanders should be aware of the need for additional security," Reyes said.

Balikatan 02-1 is the code name for the joint US-RP military exercises in the southern Philippines, while Balanced Piston is the joint exercise in the north of the country.

In a separate interview, Press Secretary Noel Cabrera said the shooting was being investigated, adding "we're looking at possible suspects and one of these is the NPA."

But he said that at the moment, "there is no basis" to conclude the communists were behind the shooting.

US military officials yesterday tried to downplay the incident where the MC-130H Combat Talon II cargo aircraft was hit by two bullets in its fuselage while on a training flight over northern Luzon.

The Americans said it appeared the incident was an "isolated event" and that "no groups or organizations were suspect."

Still the US Air Force was investigating the incident to "determine the cause," according to Master Sgt. Michael Farris, public affairs officer of the 353rd Special Operations Group.

Farris said the plane carrying an eight-man crew was flying over a mountainous region in northern Luzon when the incident occurred at 6:50 p.m. Wednesday.

"There were no injuries to the crew and the plane landed safely at Clark Field (in Pampanga) at 7:57 p.m.," Farris said.

In Angeles City, Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo said the US military might have devised the attack on its own plane to justify their increasing presence in the Philippines.

"It's not beyond imagining for the US and the CIA in collusion with the Armed Forces of the Philippines to devise a scenario that would justify bigger American involvement," Ocampo told reporters before the launching of the Central Luzon Alliance for Sovereign Philippines yesterday.

"Historically, they've used such tactics," he said, citing "more brutal methods for suppression used by the Americans" during the Philippine-American war at the end of the 19th century.

The lack of an authentic claim of responsibility from the NPA and the caution aired Friday by National Security Adviser Roilo Golez not to blame the rebel group made the incident more "fishy," Ocampo said.

Maj. Kevin Colyer, US joint mission commander of Balanced Piston, denied the US military had created the incident.

"Not true," Colyer replied when asked about the speculation.

NPA spokesperson Gregorio Rosal denied Saturday guerrillas had fired at the US plane, the Associated Press reported.

"Our comrades would not do that," Rosal said. "First of all, we are not really sure that such a plane had been shot at." ***With Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk, and AP and AFP reports***

Paraffin test for dead Yank

POLICE have ordered paraffin tests to be conducted on both the slain American and the injured German who figured in a reported ambush while trekking to Mt. Pinatubo last Wednesday to dispel speculations that one could have shot the other.

The body of American Brian Thomas Smith has been brought to Camp Crame for autopsy. His companion, German Siegfried Wittman, is still recuperating at a local hospital.

"We want to rule out the angle that they had shot at each other," explained Chief Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, police director for Region 3.

He did not say if Wittman was a suspect but admitted having some doubts over the German's account of the incident.

Police are now conducting background checks on Wittman and Smith, who had been staying in the same apartment in Angeles City. Wittman has been living in the country for 10 years but Smith only arrived last month.

The pair had been reportedly ambushed while climbing Pinatubo through the Sapang Uwak route in Porac, Pampanga, on Wednesday afternoon. Wittman was rescued while the body of Smith, who died from a wound in the back, had been found late Thursday. ***TJ Burgonio***

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Gloria asks Colin about 'axis of evil'

NEW YORK—President Macapagal-Arroyo questioned Secretary of State Colin Powell on Friday over President George W. Bush's designation of North Korea, Iraq and Iran as an "axis of evil," officials said.

Ms Macapagal, in New York for the World Economic Forum, also discussed the deployment of US troops in the southern Philippines, in an advisory capacity to Philippine troops battling Islamic rebels, State Department spokesperson Richard Boucher said.

The talks took place a day after a US special forces plane was hit by two bullets when on a low-level training mission in the Philippines, an incident which led to hundreds of US troops in the country being confined to barracks.

"President Arroyo asked about President Bush's speech and she asked about the axis of evil," Boucher said.

"The secretary noted that the president had made an important point that there are a couple of countries where support for terrorism, pursuit of weapons of mass destruction and despotic regimes are mixed together and the importance of continuing to pursue our policies."

Bush singled the three states out in his State of the Union address on Tuesday, warning that the United States could act if their governments did not desist from developing and exporting weapons of mass destruction. ***AFP***

Erratum

DUE to an inadvertence, a filler material on the Commission on Elections' continuing registration of voters was used on Monday's issue. The registration ended on Dec. 26, 2001. We regret the error.—Ed.

GMA takes job search to UK, North America

By Tony S. Bergonia
Assistant National Editor

NEW YORK—If there's one thing President Macapagal-Arroyo has in common with millions of other Filipinos, it's the search for jobs.

And both have carried their search beyond the shores of the Philippines.

Ms Macapagal has promised to generate a million jobs by the time the term she inherited from ousted President Joseph Estrada ends in 2004.

During her visits the past week to the United Kingdom and Canada, Ms Macapagal's single obsession has been to attract foreigners to invest more in the Philippines because she believes investments would translate into jobs.

Much of the fanfare during the President's meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair centered on the ongoing Malampaya $2 billion natural gas project, which is 40-percent funded by a British firm.

But just how many jobs the Malampaya project would generate for Filipinos has not been measured.

In terms of real jobs, the President didn't need to lobby hard for about 25,000 openings for Filipino nurses in the UK.

UK hospitals are badly in need of nurses and Filipino nurses who make it to UK hospitals are treated and paid the same as British nurses.

In Canada, the President and Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien presided over the signing of six agreements.

One of the agreements involved the setting up of a matchmaking agency that would find the right Philippine-made product for the right Canadian business enterprise.

Officials said Canada has also promised to finance the construction of homes for the poor, which would not only reduce the backlog in housing but also create jobs. The project will cost about $590 million.

Also being discussed between Canadian and Philippine officials is a possible Canadian investment in energy-related industries, particularly in the storage of petroleum and petroleum products.

One official said a Canadian firm would build the North Luzon railway system along which the housing units for the poor would be built.

"It's really part of an entire design," said the official.

Jobs was also on Ms Macapagal's mind when she appeared before leaders of the Filipino community in Canada.

She said Filipinos now working in Canada and elsewhere should also consider making small investments in the Philippines that would help generate jobs.

"You should not be called overseas Filipino workers anymore," the President said.

"You should now be called overseas Filipino investors."

But the sales pitch didn't appear to work. Filipinos who went to hear speak before two exclusive clubs in Canada were more interested in having their pictures taken with her.

Marines mistake militiamen for Abu

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Marine soldiers in Basilan have mistaken a group of militiamen for Abu Sayyaf members in Maluso town on Friday and killed one of them.

At least three of the four surviving Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit members confined at the Camp Navarro Hospital at the Southern Command headquarters here said they were still puzzled as to how the incident happened.

Lt. Col. John Andreshak of the 59th Medical Wing of the US Air Force was treating the survivors.

Southcom chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu earlier announced that elements of the 5th Marine Battalion Landing Team (MBLT) killed at least five Abu Sayyaf bandits in Barangay Laspuler in Maluso on Friday morning, and that the soldiers also recovered several firearms.

But Felipe Perez, one of the survivors, said they were not Abu Sayyaf and were surprised when Marine soldiers fired at them.

Perez said he and his four companions were sent to Laspuler on orders of Lt. Col. Reynaldo Ordoñez, commander of the Army's 10th Infantry Battalion, to verify reports about the presence of Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya and hostages Martin Burnham and his wife Gracia.

He said they were cooking their breakfast when they were fired upon.

"We were just following orders of our commander," Perez said in Chavacano. ***Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Ferryboat with 70 aboard missing, feared to have sunk

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A ferryboat with about 70 people on board has been missing for five days in waters off the southern Philippines and is believed to have sunk, military and Coast Guard officials said yesterday.

There has been no sign of survivors from the boat, the ML Sugar Diane-Z, which lost contact with the Coast Guard late Jan. 27 amid reports of rough seas and engine trouble.

The boat, carrying a cargo of dried coconut meat and 70 people, set off from the southernmost islands of Tawi-tawi and heading for Zamboanga City on Jan. 27, military spokesperson Lt. Col. Danilo Servando said.

Coast Guard official Lt. Arnold dela Cruz said the boat called in a radio report that it had suffered engine trouble and later said that it was caught in rough seas and was taking on water.

"Passengers and crew were vomiting and felt weak," Dela Cruz said, quoting the ship's last radio report.

An airforce plane and a rescue vessel was sent to the area to find the stricken ferryboat but there was no sign of the ML Sugar Diane-Z, Servando and Dela Cruz said.

Dela Cruz said they were also looking into the reports that another vessel, the MM Sea Horse, went down on Jan. 26 but that eight of the 13 people on board had survived. *AFP*

14 killed as bus falls into ravine

BAGUIO CITY—Fourteen people were killed while 18 others were hurt on Saturday when a bus bound for Kabayan, Benguet, plunged into a ravine in Bokod town, police said.

The accident occurred at 12:30 p.m. along a mountain road in Sitio Intay-ak in Barangay Gurel in Poblacion, Bokod, police said.

Police identified the fatalities as Larion Bacod, the driver of the Norton Bus; PO3 Jefferson Galasgas of the Benguet police; Romana Ganado; Aubrey Beliaco; Felino Kemilas; Duela Dawal; Muller Gosgos; Diokno Polon; Perfecto Puday; Robert Palos; Nena Cajao; Kulis Mesa; Regina Gabao; and Cristeta Andres.

The injured passengers were taken to the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center here.

PO3 Henry Belen of the Benguet police office said their reports did not indicate the number of passengers of the bus. He said some passengers jumped out of the bus before it plunged into the ravine.

Investigators could not say what caused the accident as they were still gathering accounts from survivors. ***PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Tax scam probers back Ani

By Michael L. Ubac

RANKING finance officials, particularly members of Task Force 156, yesterday threw their support behind the Ombudsman's Office.

In a joint statement, Task Force 156 led by Finance Undersecretary Cornelio Gison and Ombudsman spokesperson Jose de Jesus agreed to "work and coordinate closely" in pursuing the investigation of the tax credit scam.

Gison, who signed the joint statement on behalf of the task force, said Task Force 156 "acknowledges the exclusive prerogative of the Office of the Ombudsman to determine the appropriate legal strategy for the successful prosecution of these cases."

Gison said Task Force 156 and the Ombudsman's Office "recognize and respect each other's mandate with regard to the investigation and prosecution of these cases."

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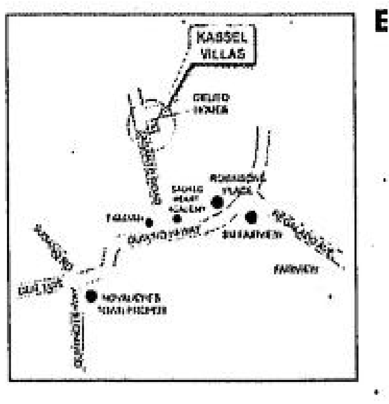

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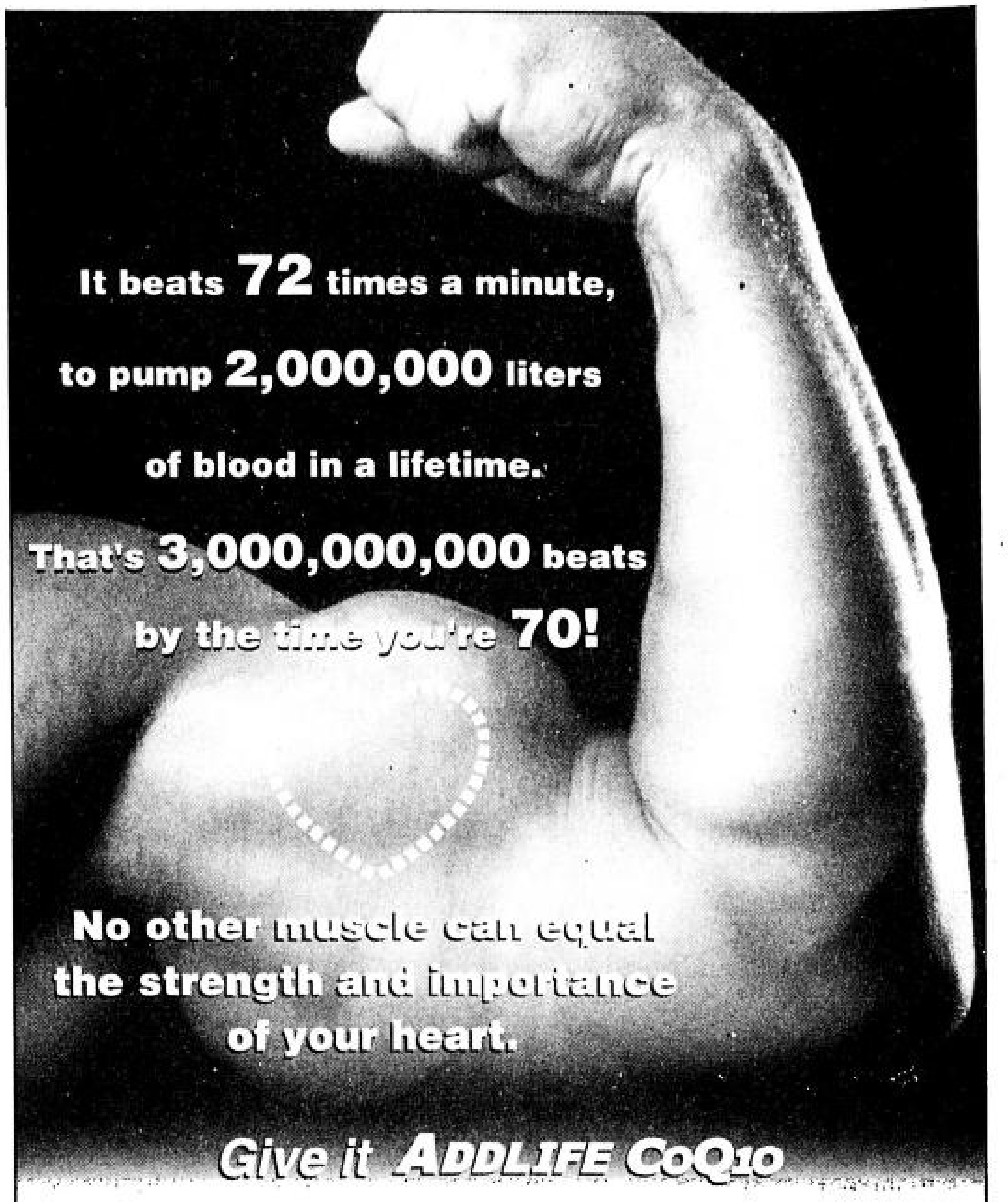

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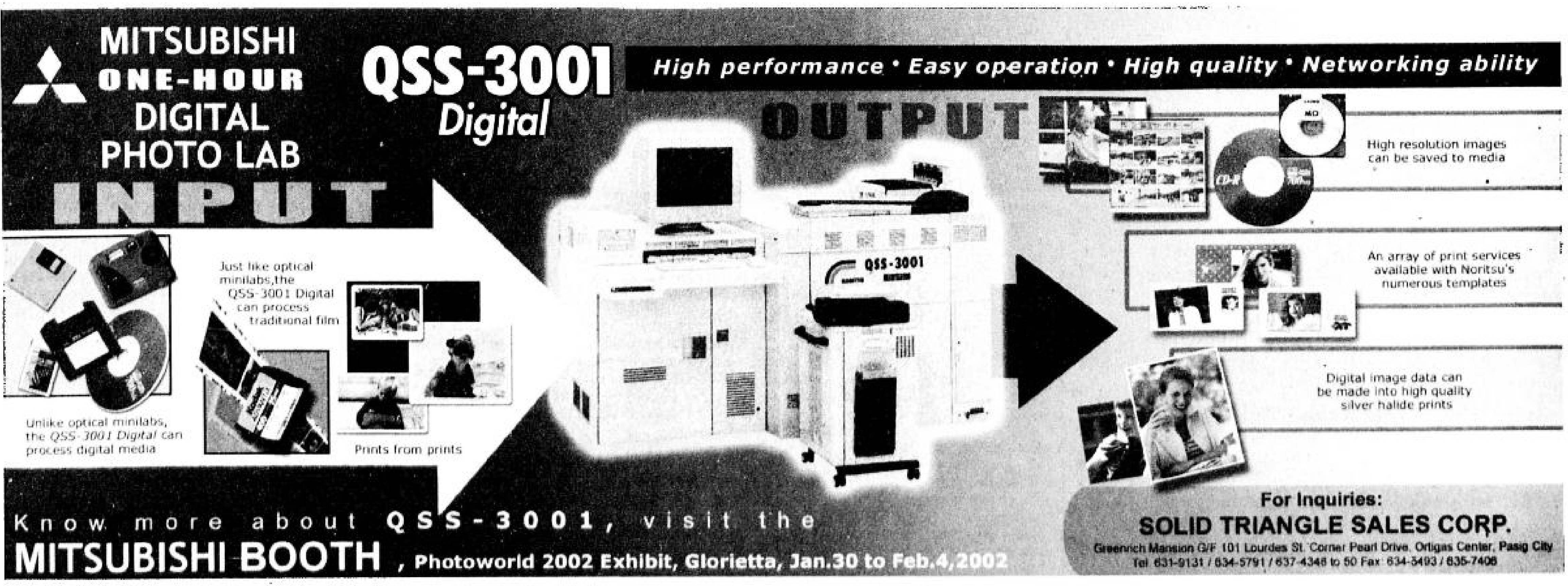

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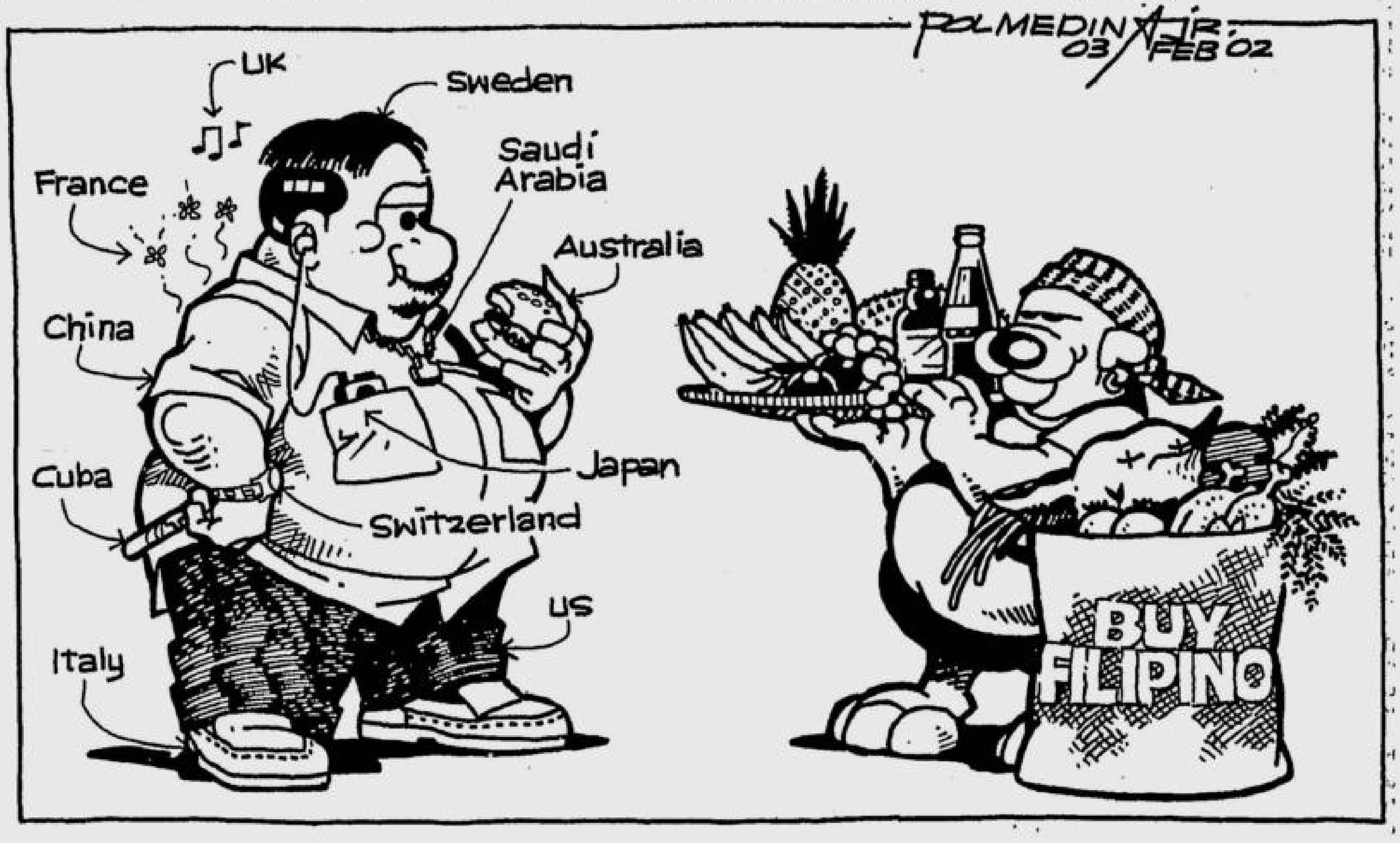

EDITORIALS

Pretentious nonsense

THIS much we can say about the two pending impeachment complaints against Ombudsman Aniano Desierto: they are not an attack, as Desierto has said again and again, on the very institution of the Ombudsman itself. Instead, they are an opportunity to call the public official to account, to see if he has done right by his high office.

To say that the institution itself is under attack is pretentious non-sense at best. At worst, it is an act of desperation. Surely, Desierto does not mean to suggest that he is beyond accountability, that the mere fact of a filed complaint is prima facie evidence of a coordinated assault on the public office he holds in temporary trust. And yet, if we take the time to parse his statements, especially since Misamis Oriental Rep. Oscar Moreno accused him of taking a dive on the P5.3-billion tax credit scam in a privilege speech on Jan. 23, that is exactly what he is saying.

It is time to disabuse Desierto of the absurd notion that he is the office he holds.

To be sure, his blanket assertion is a muffled echo of a common refrain in Philippine politics. Call it the identity fallacy, but for as long as we can remember, public officials have confused their own identities with the government office they were elected or appointed to. In their thinking, a charge filed against them is an attack on the office they hold.

Nonsense. The very post that Desierto occupies illustrates the key political principle at work here: the official is distinct from the office he is sworn to discharge. Note that the Ombudsman's function is to prosecute officials who have betrayed their public office, who have not lived up to it. Thus, by definition, official and office are not one and the same. To hear Desierto deploy a line of argument that goes against the very nature of his job, therefore, does not only fill us with dismay. It also suggests to us that Desierto does not understand his job at all.

It is, therefore, in the best interest of the Office of the Ombudsman itself, of the nation it is duty-bound to serve, and of the 12th Congress, which has to hear the complaints against the incumbent's brand of public service, that both impeachment complaints be heard fairly and in full. A mechanical dismissal would be just as much a cynical act as the notion that a public official is the office he holds.

Speaker's call

REGARDLESS of the merits of the two impeachment complaints, the make-or-break factor in this week's vote in Congress—either to overturn the House justice committee's decision junking the first or send the second straight to the Senate—is Speaker of the House Jose de Venecia. If he decides to back the case against Desierto, the committee decision will be overturned or, as is more likely, the second complaint will be submitted to the Senate (and Desierto impeached). Either way, a vote of at least one-third of the House membership is required.

According to Moreno's allies, anywhere from 20 to 40 congressmen have signified their intention to buck Desierto. We won't know until the actual vote whether these numbers are mere propaganda or for real. But this much is sure. For the House to reach the threshold level of 73 votes, the support of the Speaker is required. Thus, the vote this week will largely be De Venecia's call.

We think that the bottom-line question is this: Is there evidence to support either complaint? In the case of the second, it seems likely that the evidence is there and is in fact mounting.

If the House decides not to take Desierto to account, the Speaker can be sure of two things: there will be a public outcry and the Senate will commence its own investigation.

The real question for De Venecia, therefore, is: The public would eventually hear the truth, so would he rather the evidence come out in the House or in the Senate?

Regarding regards

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I HEARD a TV newscaster recently saying, "With regards to this matter, the consensus of opinion is..." The announcer did not use "regards" correctly. He should have said, "With regard to this matter, etc.," meaning "in connection with this matter" or "about this matter."

"Regards" means greetings, as in the old popular song "Give My Regards to Broadway." We often end a letter with "Best regards" to signify our goodwill for the addressee. The word may also be used as a singular noun, as in "I have a high regard for him," meaning he is esteemed. If you say, "I have high regards for him," you may not be complimenting him but only giving him the high five.

"Regard" may also be used as a verb, with our without an "s" depending on the subject. Thus, "I regard him as a friend" or "She regards him as a crook." There is also the idiomatic expression "as regards," meaning "regarding" or "concerning." As regards this phrase, you may take it or leave it as you please.

I do not pretend to be a language expert, nor do I intend to aggravate the irritable fellow who resented my grammar suggestions and called me a hypocrite. I merely wish to correct some mistakes that have become too widespread and annoying to be simply suffered in silence. Many are the students I have interrupted in mid-air to fall flat on a grammatical gaffe.

That announcer also erred in using "consensus of opinion." (Though I had missed it, did you?) Webster defines "consensus" as "a general opinion"; hence, "consensus of opinion" would translate to "a general opinion of opinion," in a silly surplusage. Incidentally, "consensus" is not spelled with a "c" as in "census." It is derived from the word "consent."

Another affectation that is infecting the language is the improper use of certain words as verbs like "The fall of the peso impacted on the masses" and "The board prioritized his claim." These barbarisms were probably invented in the Pentagon or "conceptualized" on Madison Avenue. Among the extreme and absurd examples are "hangovered" after a night of drinking and "dotted-lined" a contract. Students here say, *"Isa-summer ko na lang ito"* when they flunk a subject.

Some people, mostly lawyers, are fond of using impressive words. When one says, "This case tantamounts to a crime," I know who the culprit is. "Tantamount" is an adjective meaning "equivalent or having equal value, force or effect." It is incorrect to say "His forced leave tantamounts to a dismissal" although it is true that the poor fellow is being fired. Say instead that he is being sacked or, if you really want to show off, that his forced leave "is tantamount to a dismissal."

I repeat an earlier admonition that radio and television announcers should be careful about their grammar and phonics lest their mistakes contaminate their listeners. Their occupation, to borrow from a landmark decision, has "a greater capacity for evil."

A newscaster describing the Sept. 11 catastrophe last year kept using "at this point in time" so many times that I finally switched to another channel out of sheer exasperation. That stupid phrase has long been hooted out of the American idiom but some of us here in the boondocks still regard it as a sign of sophistication.

Even judges can be pretentious too. In the decision of the Court of Appeals on the Lenny Villa case, the justices referred to themselves as "We" and "Our" as if they were the Queen of England or the Pope. Your Honors, step down from your wobbly perch. In a fit of contrite humility, I suggested the banishment of the practice in the Supreme Court, arguing that it made us look like pompous asses. The Court agreed and decided to henceforth limit our ego to the lower case.

There is nothing wrong with the editorial "we" to indicate not the ambiguous "I" (who's he?) but the paper itself. I use the individual "I" in this column because I am speaking only for myself and not necessarily the INQUIRER. It is permissible for a judge to say "we" in his decision because he is speaking for his court even as in the Sandiganbayan, "we" refers to the court itself and its members joining in its decision. In these cases, the "we" (and also the "our") is not Capitalized, except where it begins a sentence, and never is it in ALL CAPS.

I often dissented alone when I was on the high tribunal and naturally used "I" to distance myself from my colleagues who insisted on being wrong. (Joke only, my irascible reader.) The capital I is dictated by linguistic rules and does not denote conceit except when it is over-used to inflate one's importance.

To end today's lesson, let us go to some improbable words and phrases that have been validated by usage. Why do we say "fall down" when it's impossible to "fall up"? Is there an opposite of "uplift"? The people in the courtroom "stand up" upon the entry of the judge who, to excuse a witness, tells him to "stand down." No inconsistency there, but how about persons "meeting together" or "joining together"? I don't see how they can do this separately.

Class dismissed. Watch your language and have a nice day!

Making a difference

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

I HEARD a story about a mental hospital patient who always kept her ear pressed against the wall. When an attendant asked her what she was doing, she beckoned the attendant to join her at the wall. After some moments of listening at the wall, the attendant said she couldn't hear anything. To which the patient replied: "Yes, it's been like that all day!"

* * *

In contrast, in today's Gospel (Mt. 5, 13-16) Jesus speaks very clearly to remind us who we are and what we should be in this world. His message is loud and clear: We are the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. We are supposed to be different, and we should make a difference in this world. Our light must shine before others so that they may see our good deeds and glorify our Heavenly Father. We are supposed to reflect the light of Jesus, who, like the sun, is the source of light, and we, like the moon, must beam His light on a dark night.

How's your beaming power? Are you still beaming Jesus' light? Or are you beaming with the world's delight?

* * *

Beaming God's light is what our life-mission is all about. Dr. Roby Montellano, an XVD, experienced this in a very concrete way when he was trapped inside a dark elevator last year for some 45 minutes together with five other people. At first, he thought that it would just be a matter of minutes before power was restored, but it dragged on. Only the glow from his cell phone provided some light. That little glow provided some hope. It made a difference.

It was so hot inside that soon, two of his companions passed out.

Roby did something else that made a difference: through it all, he led the others to pray, continuously telling them to hope and not to give up. Six people trapped inside a dark and hot elevator 23 floors above the ground held on and made it through because one person literally and perseveringly beamed God's light.

Whoever you are, whatever situation you are in, continue to beam God's light. You may be the last link, the last flicker of hope in your family, in your office, in your circle of friends. Don't put off your light, no matter how small because if you do, everything around you may turn totally dark.

* * *

Salt makes a difference in the food we eat. I should know. I am from Pangasinan (*pang-asinan*, meaning, where salt is made). I remember that, as a little boy, we would get by a meal just with rice and salt or *bagoong*. Rice alone was flat. All it took was a little amount of salt or *bagoong* to make a difference.

That's all we need too in this world: a few good men and women to give life, and to add flavor to life itself. We need people who have substance, people who have principles and values, people who are willing to go against the flow of the crowd. Sweet people are nice, but many of them end up just like that. It is not enough to be sweet in this life. One must be "salty" too.

Are you sweet or salty? Whatever, make a difference.

* * *

When I look back, I can hardly remember who were the celebrities, the politician, the generals, the rich and the powerful people in the past. But I remember persons who were there to give me substance and light. For instance, I remember a catechist, Ms Rosa Go, who gave me so much encouragement and affirmation when I was in Grade IV at the Sta. Catalina College. She never failed to say a good word, and she kept telling me that I was a good boy, and that maybe I'd become a priest some day. She herself is now a Dominican nun in Sienna College.

I also remember Sr. Idmara, S.Sp.S. who was our class mother when we were in first year high school at the Christ the King Seminary. I saw in her a dedicated and humble religious who beamed God's light in such a joyful way.

There was also Fr. Stan Plutz, SVD, who would "religiously" do the garden every day and water the plants rain or shine! And, many, many more whom I've met years ago and who continue to beam God's light in my eyes and in my memory.

* * *

Every New Year's Eve, we make it a point to light up a candle at the altar in our home to remind us that more than the noisy and magnificent fireworks, we value the silence, the simplicity and the constancy of the candleglow. In the thick of the grindsparks, and the flashbulbs, and the fireworks, don't miss the candleglow.

Also, we place at our altar rice and salt to remind us that more than the cakes and sweet things in life, we value and appreciate the hard work and sacrifices of our departed loved ones in order that we could live substantial and meaningful lives.

* * *

What will people remember about you long after you're gone? Either they'll say, "That guy had substance," or they'll say, "That guy was empty—all air, just form."

Light and salt, direction and substance—you get these if you are focused on God and when you go for loving, not winning. Be different. Make a difference.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be different and make a difference for you in this world. Amen.

Fears don't change in Afghanistan

FEATURE

John Fullerton

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan—The first-floor balcony faces south. The house beyond is a ruin of pancaked concrete slabs, peppered with bullet holes like old scars. In the distance, a treeline masks the mud walls of villages.

Twenty years ago, the treeline flickered at night with the muzzle flashes of the guns of mujahideen, Afghan holy warriors armed and trained by Pakistani, Saudi and American intelligence agencies. Mounted on the balcony then was a 12.7 mm Soviet Dhsk machinegun, manned by members of the Soviet-backed People's Democratic Party (PDPA).

To the west, a line of jagged hills reaches steeply into the winter sky. Twenty years ago, Soviet troops set up fire bases in the foothills, providing artillery support for the city's PDPA strongpoints.

Today the balcony, along with the house itself, is owned by a relative of interim government leader Hamid Karzai. The treeline no longer bristles with hostile guns, but it still marks the edge of bandit country—the rural districts where well-armed villagers, imbued with ancient Pashtun customs and their Muslim faith, find common cause with the Taliban against the alien ideas and ambitions of urban reformers, whatever their nationality.

The Karzais' extended family paid a terrible price for opposing the Soviets and their local communist proxies. Some 45 members of the clan were dragged from their beds. Their bodies were never found.

Now, instead of the Soviets, US troops, backed by attack helicopters, have established a base at Kandahar airport in support of Karzai's temporary administration. Today, they pursue the Taliban, and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. But has anything fundamentally changed?

More than 20 years ago, idealistic young Afghans from the cities looked to the socialist bloc for investment, for reform, for an end to grinding poverty and widespread illiteracy.

On Dec. 25, 1979, the Soviet armed forces invaded Afghanistan. Moscow sent in conventional forces, including mechanized infantry and armor, to head off an impending civil war between rival groups of the ruling communists.

They were not prepared for, or equipped to deal with, guerrillas armed by the CIA, organized by Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence and funded covertly by Saudi Arabia. Foreign "holy warriors" formed an international Muslim force. Saudi-born Bin Laden was one of the volunteers.

At the cost of about 10,000 to 15,000 Soviet lives and many more wounded, Moscow achieved a tenuous hold on the cities and the highways linking them.

Twenty years on, and the post-Taliban government of Karzai holds the city centers and, at least by day, the roads.

They too are divided. Karzai's interim cabinet is an uneasy coalition of Farsi-speaking minority northerners and majority Pashto-speaking southerners, and the northerners predominate.

Idealistic young Afghans from the cities look to the West to help rebuild their shattered country, to bring in social and economic reforms, to start the long road to democracy.

But no government, not even those backed by a superpower, can ever be said to have imposed its will on the countryside, and the chasm between urban and rural Afghans, between city trader and peasant farmer, between the schooled and unschooled, is vast. Some Afghans say they believe 60 percent of the Taliban are still active in the Pashto-speaking south. The population at large is already well-armed. And the Taliban are not some foreign, alien force.

The movement was popular, at least for a time, because it brought order to a nation torn by anarchy and the predations of rival warlords after the Soviets withdrew in 1989. In some rural areas, it still is.

Taliban rule collapsed under the combined weight of Washington's declared war on terrorism, prompted by the Sept. 11 attacks, and its own, increasingly arbitrary rule. But the Taliban spirit lives on, as do many thousands of sympathizers.

"The Taliban are all around us. It's not a matter of wearing a white turban or a black turban. It's the attitude that doesn't change," said one Kandahar politician. "It's part of our identity. You'll only truly rid Afghanistan of the Taliban when you rid the country of poverty and ignorance."

Which is just what the Soviets tried to do, and failed.

The sense of déjà vu doesn't end there. The Soviets stayed to defend their brand of socialism, to protect their southern frontier against radical Islamic movements, and to counter expanding Pakistani influence. What of the American troops and the *"bow-bows"* (the nickname the Afghans have given the mighty B-52s) and the awesome destructiveness of their bombs?

Washington says it will stay until its objectives are achieved, namely, the death or capture of Bin Laden and the annihilation of his al-Qaida network. But if the B-52s do depart, will there be civil war once again?

Many Afghans think only the US military presence is keeping the peace. "If they go, we'll start fighting one another again," said a taxi driver.

And if the US forces stay on, what then?

A former Taliban commander, now working for the new government's secret police, said he thought the Americans had a grace period of about six months. "We all need a rest," he said. "But if they're still here after six months, well..."

He didn't complete the sentence, but the Soviets would have known exactly what he meant.

Reuters

Rizal, the man, the musical

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ABOUT 30 minutes after the scheduled start of the musical "Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?" Celeste Legaspi was still missing half her audience. Public high school students, through a grant, had been scheduled to watch the musical on the life of the national hero. But by 8 p.m., only a few of them had straggled into the Music Museum. The rest, they said, might have gotten lost, not knowing where exactly the theater was.

Still, the show went on. And as we enthusiastically applauded the young cast at the end, I couldn't help but feel a twinge of regret for those students who had missed this chance at experiencing live theater in the intimate confines of the Music Museum. And getting an entertaining, painless and moving lesson on the life of Jose Rizal as well.

The life of a national hero isn't the usual stuff of musical theater, granted. Historians and history teachers would bristle at the thought of "trivializing" the life of a historical figure whose work and significance are studied for at least a semester in college. Theater folk, on the other hand, might be forgiven for their skepticism about the entertainment potential of a musical about the life of someone known to most only through textbooks and as a brand of matches.

* * *

WHO is this man Jose Rizal—the icon, intellectual, role model and lothario? As the contemporary Pinoys ask at the musical's opening: Is he (or was he) for real?

"Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?" offers no real surprises, shocking twists or iconoclastic interpretations on Rizal's character, unlike, say, Mike de Leon's film "Bayaning Third World." If anything, it rushes by like a kaleidoscopic review of the highlights of Rizal's life, most of which are familiar to anyone who's sat through high school (even grade school) Philippine history or the obligatory Rizal course.

What it offers today's audiences, especially young people who may think Rizal is someone who belongs to the musty past, is an accessible view of the national hero. Through song and dance (music and libretto by Nonoy Gallardo, with additional libretto by Rene Villanueva), it traces the journey of the man from a young boy, precocious student, exile, to reluctant rebel and martyr. Instead of sleeping through one stultifying lecture after another, one gets a sweeping overview, regaled by songs that range from the bouncy dance numbers to moving ballads, with some personal insights thrown in. Astonishing indeed how the musical can in two hours convey the roots of Rizal's nationalism, his extraordinarily close ties to his family, his prickly pride and his struggle choosing between personal happiness and duty to country.

We may not leave the Music Museum knowing more about Rizal than what we have already learned from books and movies. but I'm hoping young people will begin thinking of him in more human terms, and look beyond the icon, after sitting through this musical.

* * *

"WHERE did you find all those talents?" I asked Celeste, who is one of the founders of Musical Theatre Philippines, producer of "Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?"

This was exactly how I felt at the close of the first local staging of "Rent," blown away by the sheer talent of what was then a cast of mostly unknowns or little-knowns. How rich indeed is the local artistic community!

Leading the cast as Rizal is Roy Rolloda, who made waves as half of the pair of Siamese twins in "Chang & Eng, The Musical" staged in Singapore and Bangkok. He matches his strong, soaring voice with expressive acting, not to mention the fact that he strongly resembles Rizal.

About the most moving song in the musical is "Lumisan si Pepe/Taimis," performed by Sheila Noreen Lopez with convincing emotion. Also strong presences are Sisa Samaniega-Esteva as Teodora Alonzo ("Isn't she fated to appear in a musical about Rizal?" my daughter quipped, noting her name), and Ana Guillen Feleo as Josephine Bracken. A music senior at UP, Feleo is also the daughter of film artists Laurice Guillen and Johnny Delgado.

The rest of the cast is made up of young theater talents—an ensemble of beginning professionals, students and even migrants from the world of business and academe. Throughout the musical, they come and go as various characters, which speaks well of their versatility, though it could be disconcerting, to say the least, to see Graciano Lopez Jaena turning into a *guardia civil* guarding Rizal in his cell.

* * *

I MUST take note, though, of the production values, which are entirely in keeping with the musical's humble aspirations. But a small production budget does not mean an uninspired and drab presentation, thanks in large part to the creativity of director Helen Dabao and her associates.

I especially enjoyed the visual effects of the Anino Shadow Play Collective, who used the overhead projector cleverly and judiciously, enhancing the "message" of every scene without being too literal or redundant.

A woeful lament of three cold and shivering Filipino expats in Europe, "Sa Ulan, Sa Lamig, Sa Lungkot," is illustrated by a backdrop of raindrops running down into sad rivulets. An ode to Dapitan is accompanied by a fuzzy photo of the seaside, made even mistier with the use of a veil of fishnets. And when Rizal is executed, his death is implied by the eloquent symbolism of a bowler hat falling and landing on the ground.

Such simple, inexpensive devices should prove that the future of Philippine theater lies not in grand, big budget "*pang*-world class" mega productions, but by small (but only in budget terms) and intrepid efforts like "Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?"

Terrorism and its parasites

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IN ITS simplest sense, terrorism is the use of fear to force an individual or a community to act in a way contrary to reason. It is the opposite of debate, argument, or persuasion.

You cannot argue with a terrorist. He is not interested in dialogue or discussion. His mind is closed. He feels superior in every way to his victims. This sense of superiority comes not only from the feeling of an immense power to destroy or to inflict great injury on others; it also springs from an imagined special access to the truth, to God's will, or to the future.

Today's most notorious and most dangerous terrorists are the Islamist crusaders like Osama bin Laden, who would do anything to destroy modern civilization because they see in it the very antithesis of God's will. In their eyes, America represents everything that is evil about the modern way of life. This view of the world is archaic, and until Bin Laden came along, few people took this quaint fanaticism seriously.

The American CIA took notice of Bin Laden's Islamism as a potential threat, but this did not prevent it from using him to drive away America's old foe, the Soviet Union, from Afghanistan, and to hold at bay another pet peeve, the Shi'ite Islamic regime in Iran. To the Americans, Bin Laden, a Sunni Muslim, was a madman they could control. The same strategic thinking was also the reason why from 1994 to 1997 the United States was content to watch Pakistan and Saudi Arabia provide support to the Taliban, whom they saw as a countervailing force against Iran's ambitions in Central Asia.

This picture of the world changed drastically in August 1998, after the bombing of the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. The monster they helped to create was finally thinking on its own. The Sept. 11 attacks on the centers of US power finally showed America the face of the enemy, Bin Laden, its old friend.

The images of 9/11 are so powerful that one would be led to think that history began only on that day. The past is blurred. Events that cannot be assimilated into the paradigm of the American crusade against global terrorism are suddenly beyond recall. Only the future is real, and President George W. Bush Jr. defines that future in these ringing words: "My hope is that all nations will heed our call and eliminate the terrorist parasites who threaten their countries and our own. Many nations are acting forcefully….But some governments will be timid in the face of terror. And make no mistake about it: If they do not act, America will."

How quickly America has forgotten that it once played parasite to these same terrorists! The righteous rhetoric that Bush now deploys against terrorism would make it seem as if terrorists wore a single face, and that all that one needed to do was open one's eyes, recognize the evil, and erase it from the face of the earth.

The truth is that beneath the black-and-white map of the world that America paints is a pragmatic perspective that allows its government to exploit situations anywhere in the pursuit of long-term and broader geo-strategic interests. This may all seem cynical especially against the backdrop of genuine horror and grief in the United States today, but it is not the first time that righteous indignation is mobilized to achieve broader goals than justice. Events lend themselves to varied uses. They may provide the legitimacy for certain actions, but they are often not the motive behind national policy.

That is why I think we are posing the wrong question when we ask: Who is the enemy, the Abu Sayyaf or America? Such questions are debate-stoppers; they are not questions that would encourage any role for reason. Of course, the Abu Sayyaf is the enemy, but America is not exactly the harmless altruistic ally we think it is. We want America to be our friend, but such friendship can only mature and endure if it is based on mutual respect and a clear recognition of each other's national interests.

If we want to stop the proliferation of the Bin Ladens of this world, we must first begin to understand the complex situations that breed them. If we want to stamp out the Abu Sayyaf and its ilk, we must try to understand their origins and the functions they played and continue to play in Philippine political life. These are not monsters that emerged overnight from some dark and forgotten world. They were bred in the resentful settings of poverty-stricken communities, and were trained and armed in the interstices of the same global and domestic power games that decide the winners and losers of this world.

One does not have to be cynical to presume that it is not out of love for the Filipino people or purely out of a desire to terminate one more threat to the United States that the Americans are here to help fight the Abu Sayyaf. Mindanao is a crucial link to the rest of Southeast Asia. US economic interests in oil-rich Indonesia are enormous. The sea lanes running through this region are vital to global commerce; the largely unexplored oil and gas deposits in the area are legendary in the oil business. In short, American interests in Mindanao go beyond the Abu Sayyaf.

If we must allow American forces to fight in Mindanao, let us do so in full consciousness of our country's long-term interests and the larger dangers we face. That is what America is doing, and we should do no less.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Wrong debate on Gloria's EQ

COMMENTARY

Leandro V. Coronel

ONCE again, they've muddled the issue over presidential intelligence and charisma. It's not about who between Gloria and Erap is intelligent or charismatic.

Whoever started comparing President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Joseph Estrada had it wrong. When some of us started to complain about Ms Macapagal being *mataray, suplada* and even *bastos*, we weren't comparing her with Erap. We were complaining about her being *mataray, suplada* and even *bastos*.

I think Ms Macapagal devalues herself when she throws temper tantrums and allows herself to lapse into rudeness when she gets annoyed at things. Her public outbursts detract from her commendable work ethic.

I had wondered before why very few observers were pointing out Ms Macapagal's impetuous behavior. Some commentators even dismissed her temper tantrums as no big deal. Quezon was even worse, they offered, as if that made Ms Macapagal's flare-ups excusable. By invoking the notorious Quezonian temper, they made it sound as if we should even admire Ms Macapagal for hers.

I thought I was taking undue notice of Ms Macapagal's temper. I thought I was making a big deal about her dismissive tone when she didn't like reporters' questions. She would sometimes cut off reporters in mid-question: And give curt responses, like a solitary "No." Without explanation.

Nor even a courteous smile. Ms Macapagal makes it seem like a smile is so precious, so dear, so valuable. Didn't doctors tell her that it takes fewer facial muscles to smile than to frown? And not only that, a smile doesn't cost a thing; it's free. And yet Ms Macapagal can be miserly with her smiles.

I also thought I was making a big deal about the President's telephonic confrontation of National Food Authority Administrator Anthony Abad. When Ms Macapagal heard Abad had said something that contradicted her, on the spot she ordered Abad traced by phone. And when her offending subordinate was located, she interrupted a press conference to dress him down.

One wonders what benefit is derived from such a public scolding. On the contrary, such an experience is humiliating for the object of her anger. One wonders if that kind of treatment doesn't undermine the lower official's ability to command respect and authority back in his department or agency.

And one wonders if the public tongue-lashing is necessary at all. Can't the President wait until she can buttonhole her subordinates behind closed doors? There she can have a field day scolding her aides.

I thought a couple of other observers and I were the only ones taking notice of the President's fulminations. But along came Raul Concepcion and Butch Abad.

Industrialist Concepcion, too, had noticed that the President sometimes comes on too harsh. He said she comes across not only as "too strong or *mataray*" but also as "all-knowing." And he offered advice: She is a good manager but she needs to be more charismatic and be able to motivate and unite people from all sectors.

Representative Abad thought the President is "cold and distant." To illustrate, Abad used the title of a recent movie of the President's son, Mikey: "Di Kita Ma-Reach" (which, as we all know, was a big flop). She needs to improve her emotional leadership, she's lacking in the "EQ" (emotional quotient) department, Abad said.

So I wasn't alone after all in thinking Ms Macapagal comes across as too imperious, too bossy, too *suplada*. That is what I've been complaining about, and not that she is less charismatic than Erap.

Comparisons don't work. They don't make the offending body or verbal language any less objectionable. And this is why the comparisons with Estrada are meaningless.

Indeed, it's even an insult to Ms Macapagal to be compared with Erap. She's miles and miles ahead of Estrada in many aspects, but particularly in the gray cells department. So to compare her with her predecessor amounts to nothing. The comparison is not valid. It detracts from the real issue. It's like comparing a pear to a water chestnut, an *apulid*.

This is where the current debate over the President's being *mataray* gets bogged down. Those who say Erap was more charismatic than she have got it wrong. My gripe and that of others lately is that she appears too hard, too icy, too iron ladyish. She subtracts from her presidential image when she indulges her urge to throw a temper tantrum or be *suplada*. It turns off people. I'm only one inconsequential person, but frankly it turns me off.

Abad was right. "It's the trait Filipinos look for," he commented, referring to what he called "emotional quotient." He added: "Even if you work well but if you are a person who is distant and cold, all of these are forgotten."

Obviously piqued, Ms Macapagal lashed out at Concepcion. She branded him a longtime non-supporter of hers. Later she mocked her critics by asking them if they favored charisma over intelligence, if they preferred Erap to her.

EQ versus IQ. To me that's not the issue. Not Gloria versus Erap again. Erap is history. Erap is irrelevant. The issue is simply: don't be too bossy, too *mataray*, too impetuous.

But the way the President has reacted to this criticism doesn't indicate she will change any time soon. She made a resolution to count 30 before she unleashes her temper. But later she said, when her now-becoming notorious temper was threatening to show again, that she never promised to be any less *mataray*. Ah well.

Some claim Ms Macapagal's temper is no big deal. I guess we'll find out later if it's true that it won't hurt her. Or if, on the other hand, it contributes to her downfall.

Leandro V. Coronel is a former spokesperson of the World Bank in Washington.

THEY SAID

Deserved exoneration

"I still have to read the decision, but his acquittal is a good thing. He deserves it. That's my point of view and I'm not an unbiased observer. I'm biased in his favor."

—Former Senate President Jovito Salonga on the acquittal of former BIR Commissioner Bienvenido Tan from graft and corruption charges

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TALK OF THE TOWN

Juan V. Sarmiento Jr., Editor

Are we losing our sovereignty (2)?

THE JOINT military exercises in Mindanao do not impinge on the country's sovereignty, according to a former national security adviser.

A political science professor even claims that inviting American forces into the country is an exercise of Philippine sovereignty.

The former national security adviser, a retired general and veteran of the Vietnam War, says that the presence of US troops is part of the country's commitment to the United Nations, which has passed a resolution condemning terrorism.

Fears expressed by those against the military exercises that our sovereignty would be diminished stems from the country's colonial experience with the United States, he maintains.

The general says that the United States won't even try to set up military bases in the country because these will just create fertile ground for terrorists.

His unsolicited advice to Filipinos: Understand the causes of terrorism and the "paradigm shift" in global security brought about by the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States so that terrorism can be defeated.

'The premises of global security have changed'

Jose Almonte,
Former national security adviser

OUR LEGAL experts have argued adequately that the joint military exercise is within the (ambit of the) Constitution. So it does not impinge on our sovereignty.

The operational arrangement is covered by the Visiting Forces Agreement and the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) between the Philippines and the United States. The MDT becomes relevant because international terrorism is the new enemy. An attack on one is an attack on the other.

As a member of the United Nations, which has passed a resolution against terrorism, the Philippines has an obligation to do what it can to destroy the al Qaida network to which the Abu Sayyaf has links.

Fears that our sovereignty may be diminished can be traced to the Cold War and to our colonial experience with the United States. This fear is a kind of linear thinking that American presence may repeat our sad experience in the past.

Paradigm shift

Who can blame some of our people behaving that way? But we have to realize that there has been a paradigm shift. After Sept. 11, the premises that underpin global security have changed.

Today, the Americans and the Western coalition fully understand the nature of terrorism. They know that terrorism is the weapon of the weak and the excluded. So they are very careful with their policies and actions. They want to be sure that what they do after Sept. 11 do not generate hatred.

Recall that there was a protest against "Infinite Justice," initially the name of the US-led military operation in Afghanistan. Others claimed that only God could dispense infinite justice. Because of that, the US changed the name to "Enduring Freedom."

This kind of sensitivity signals that the United States understands that it is against its long-term interests to establish permanent bases in the Philippines. If the US does that, it knows that it will create fertile grounds for spawning terrorists. So they will not do that.

Vietnam

Then of course the need of the United States for foreign bases has become less because of technology. The US has also learned from Vietnam that occupying national communities is counter-productive. The US did not win in Vietnam despite its sophisticated weapons.

Because of this experience, the US is adopting a different approach in Afghanistan. The US said it would not occupy Afghanistan and it did not. Then it said it would convince indigenous allies in Afghanistan to continue fighting the Taliban and al Qaida. This was what happened. After they won the war, are the Americans colonizing Afghanistan? No. Hamid Karzai, a Pashtun, is the interim president and he is doing very well.

These are the new situations that we Filipinos have to understand. If we don't understand the paradigm shift and don't address the causes of terrorism, we may destroy the Abu Sayyaf but there will be another Abu Sayyaf. There will be another Osama bin Laden.

The Americans know this well. I can give a recent example, the so-called Camp X-Ray in Guantanamo. US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld insists that the al Qaida prisoners are unlawful combatants so the Geneva Convention does not protect them. I can understand him because America is a victim of an unconscionable terrorism. In case of fire, you side with the fire brigade, not with the fire. But the world is raising a contrary opinion. British Prime Minister Tony Blair has urged the US to review this position.

Former US President Jimmy Carter pointed out the need to protect the rights of the suspected al Qaida members being shipped to Guantanamo. He said that Bush might win all the wars on terrorism now but because of the potential human rights violations in treating al Qaida suspects, the next generation could lose all the wars.

I agree with Carter's scenario because human right violations will further fertilize the soil that nurtures terrorism.

To me, it is very important to understand this. So what's the best thing to do?

Because of the paradigm shift, now is the best time for the Philippines and the United States to review the basic premises of their bilateral relations.

Once they agree on the set of premises defining RP-US relations, they can formulate strategic policies and programs for helping each other. The premises will in the end take into consideration the wisdom of Blair and the recent speech of former US President Bill Clinton on BBC.

Ideological vacuum

Blair said an ideological vacuum had been created after Sept. 11. He suggested that this vacuum be filled by the values that made Western civilization strong and prosperous.

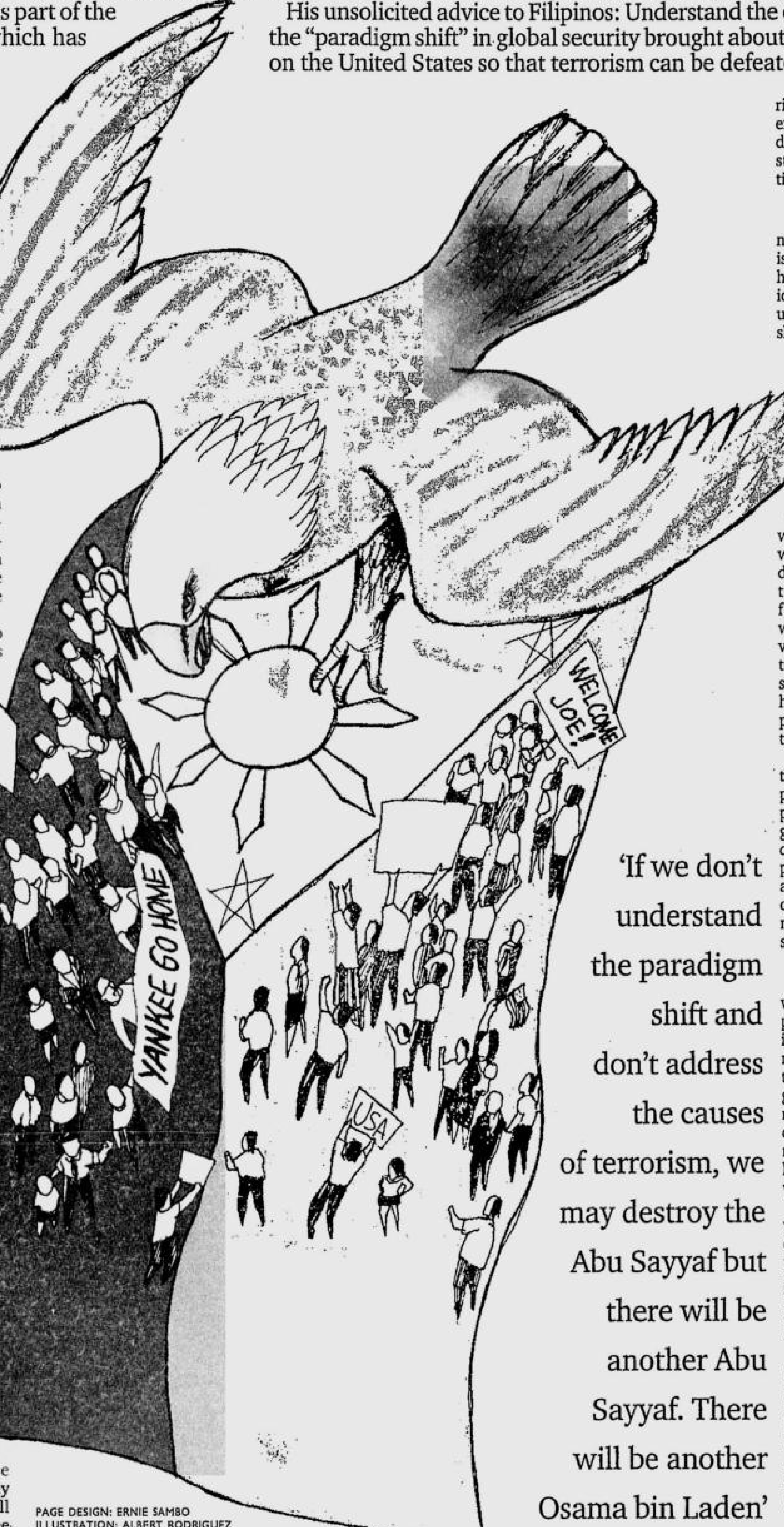
According to Blair, the Western World is strong and prosperous because it has tried to ensure that power, wealth and opportunities are shared by their citizens as broadly as possible.

This is done through the rule of law and through the exercise of free choice and sense of responsibility. The means they use politically is what they call people's rule, democracy and free market. But free market with a conscience that allows for the group sharing of power, wealth and opportunities.

What did Clinton say that would put in perspective what Blair had stated? Clinton said that the 21st century would be defined by a very simple choice—between mankind living with its differences or mankind living with its common humanity.

Clinton means that when we are living with our differences, we are living dangerously. One group tends to believe that it has the whole truth and the rest are supposed to be eliminated because they don't have the truth.

The truth referred to has religious undertones. This one is about the truth that bin Laden was trying to propagate. He wanted an international Islamic Ummah, the international Islamic community, to be ruled by the Caliphate and to be governed by the Koran. Anybody outside this is an unbeliever. When you have extreme intolerance you know that this kind of difference will reach an extreme point destructive to human existence. That is the cause of terrorism.



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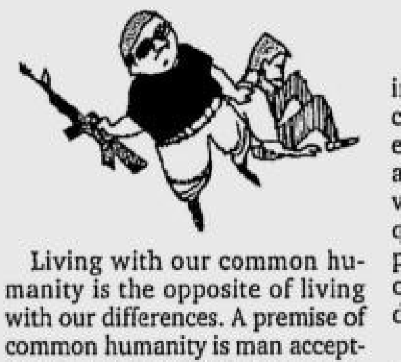


Living with our common humanity is the opposite of living with our differences. A premise of common humanity is man accepting the reality that he is mixed, where good and bad co-exist. What is the operational implication of this? This means that because no one is perfect and everyone wants to be perfect, everyone is in search of truth.

We are all journeying toward our own truth. We have to realize that we can never reach our truth without the help of our neighbors. This is why we need each other's help. That is our common humanity. That makes us all the same.

Because we need each other in that travel, Clinton said the world of the 21st century would be a house without walls. Our children and grandchildren, regardless of race, culture, creed, beliefs or whatever, will be living in that house.

Concerns

On the RP-US military exercises in Mindanao, I have some little concerns, I don't think they are empty. One is the possibility that an American soldier may be involved in some kind of crime. It's a question of whether the erring person will be tried in our courts or in US courts. But criminal jurisdiction would be a difficult issue.

The other concern is about casualties. The Americans are averse to casualties. But more than that, my concern is what if somebody is kidnapped. They'll stay there for six months, for one year. You tend to be lax when everything's peaceful and one day it could happen. In Somalia, Americans were scandalized when they suffered casualties and their dead were desecrated. It was very bad for the morale. Here, Abu Sayyaf bandits behead hostages like what they did to Guillermo Sobero, an American.

These concerns of mine are not about US presence in the country. They are about how to improve American presence.

Our problem is that we have not fully graduated from the experience of the colonial era and our experience during the Cold War. I don't think we have fully understood the meaning of globalization.

Embrace nationalism

Globalization is understood as neocolonialism, as new imperialism. Our definition of nationalism has remained. Nationalism is an ideology and I embrace that. All of us should be nationalists. But we should be true to the definition of a nationalist, which is to promote the nation, to ensure that the nation does not only survive but prevails.

How do you promote nationalism? Before they promoted it by excluding others. This was during the era when stronger nations annexed weaker nations. That cannot be done anymore especially now that the poor, the excluded, have found a very potent weapon, which was shown by bin Laden as very cheap. All bin Laden did was to "weaponize" a commercial jet, smashed it against the buildings of his enemy and kill innocent people, including Muslims. But the message is there.

The "weaponization" of the artifacts of Western culture has prompted the United States to ponder on its implications. So given all this, what should be our definition of nationalism? The impression I get is nationalism is anti-Americanism. That is to me counter-productive. We should not work against our enemies. We should be with our enemies.

Honor an adversary

I will qualify that by using what's written in the Olympic plaque. I have almost memorized it. "You are not my enemy, you are my adversary, because your resistance gives me strength. Your will gives me courage. Your spirit ennobles me. Although, I intend to defeat you, in case I succeed, I will not humiliate you. Instead, I will honor you. Because without you, I will be a lesser person."

That is what I mean by working with our enemies. We should win our enemies as adversaries, see their resistance. Fanaticism must give us wisdom. If they are suicide bombers, they must give us courage, we intend to defeat them by addressing the cause of their fight.

If we win, we will not be telling them I told you so. We will honor them because if they did not bomb the World Trade Center we might not be able to realize that empowering the poor is the best means to make ourselves the real power.

Interview by Minerva Generalao, PDI Research

'If we don't understand the paradigm shift and don't address the causes of terrorism, we may destroy the Abu Sayyaf but there will be another Abu Sayyaf. There will be another Osama bin Laden'

'Inviting US troops is an exercise of our sovereignty'

Jaime B. Naval,
Political Science professor, UP Diliman

US TROOPS are in the country because the Philippine government consented to it. That is clearly part of our full exercise of sovereignty.

Undoubtedly, there are a lot of things we can impute on the US military presence. Sovereignty should never be viewed as an end, but rather as a most vital instrument toward ensuring the well-being of the people, and the overall interest of the country.

But the United States should not be allowed to interfere, especially, dictate and impose its own will on our internal affairs. I believe, the US, at least in principle, knows this fully well, in the same way that America will not condone Philippine interference in its internal affairs.

But then, we have to be able to distinguish US involvement in the Philippines, particularly as we are the ones who seek US help. That help should not be of indefinite duration and in come-what-may form.

There are times when a country needs legitimate help and must solicit it. But then that assistance should not lead to giving license for outsiders to run our country. No country or government can lay claim to having all the wherewithal to address by itself all of its outstanding concerns, more so concerns that clearly have an intermestic (international and domestic) facet. The Philippine government's decision to seek US help is proof of this.

The WORLD

Luvern B. Gueco, Editor

Albright slams Bush's war on terror

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush came under attack from a former top US official Friday for his handling of the war on terrorism as concern mounted over the fate of a US journalist held under death sentence by kidnappers in Pakistan.

AN AFGHAN refugee waits for food at a camp in Kabul during a heavy snowfall Feb. 1 which blanketed the Afghan capital for the first time in years. REUTERS

In a rare display of Washington dissent, Madeleine Albright, secretary of state under the Clinton administration, slammed Bush for designating Iran, Iraq and North Korea as an "axis of evil" and said many in the international community believed the United States had "lost our mind."

Undaunted by criticism, the president, for the third day this week, reiterated his charges that the three nations were proliferating weapons of mass destruction and represented a danger to world peace.

Bush insisted "all options are on the table" in dealing with the three countries and in making "the United States and our allies more secure."

"All the three countries I mentioned are now on notice that we intend to take their development of weapons of mass destruction very seriously," Bush said as he welcomed Jordan's King Abdullah II to the White House.

Bush's belligerent comments sparked sharp reactions from Tehran, Baghdad and Pyongyang and some adverse comments from Russia and China as well as the Middle East.

But Albright's charges constituted the first criticism from a political insider and former US cabinet member.

Appearing on NBC television's "Today" show she said the "axis of evil" comment was wrong and risked alienating US allies and undermining US standing in the world.

Albright, who made a historic visit to Pyongyang in 2000 and met with reclusive North Korean leader Kim Jong-il, was most critical of Bush's decision to include North Korea in the "axis of evil" category.

As Bush banged the drum on terrorism in Washington, top diplomats including his Secretary of State Colin Powell identified poverty as a root cause of the problem at the World Economic Forum in New York.

"We have to go after poverty, we have to go after despair, we have to go after hopelessness," said Powell.

"We have to put hope back in the hearts of people. We have to show people who might move in the direction of terrorism that there is a better way." *AFP*

Afghans dismayed US forces didn't stop battle of warlords

GARDEZ, Afghanistan—After two days of sporadic fighting, a warlord backed by Prime Minister Hamid Karzai pulled back Friday from his battle for control of this provincial capital, a setback to government efforts to extend its control nationwide.

The clashes diminished the standing of the US military in the eyes of local Afghans, dismayed that American troops didn't stop what they fear will be a new cycle of violence in this war-weary country.

Local fighters and residents said that they expect more fighting once the warlord, Bacha Khan, whom they claim is a tyrant, regroups his men after retreating to the rugged mountains surrounding the town of Gardez, capital of Paktia province.

The battle was the biggest outbreak of fighting in Afghanistan since the Taliban were driven from power and gave urgency to appeals from Karzai for British-led international peacekeepers—currently limited to Kabul, 100 km away—to patrol the volatile provinces.

The US military is not part of the peacekeeping force and has concentrated on hunting down suspected al-Qaida and Taliban renegades.

While Gardez was rocked by fighting that killed at least 61 people, US aircraft hovered overhead but did not intervene. Nor did special forces troops, conducting hush-hush operations from an old fort nearby.

"We looked to the Americans, hoping they would do something," said Abdul Malek, a policeman. "The people of Gardez are a little disappointed in America now."

The fighting pitted the forces of Khan, appointed governor of Paktia province in eastern Afghanistan, and the Gardez town shura, or council, which adamantly rejects him.

The government sent mediators Friday to Gardez, a town of 40,000 people. It was not immediately clear whether they had made progress.

The council requested United Nations mediation as well, the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press agency reported. *AP*

US forces may have killed innocents

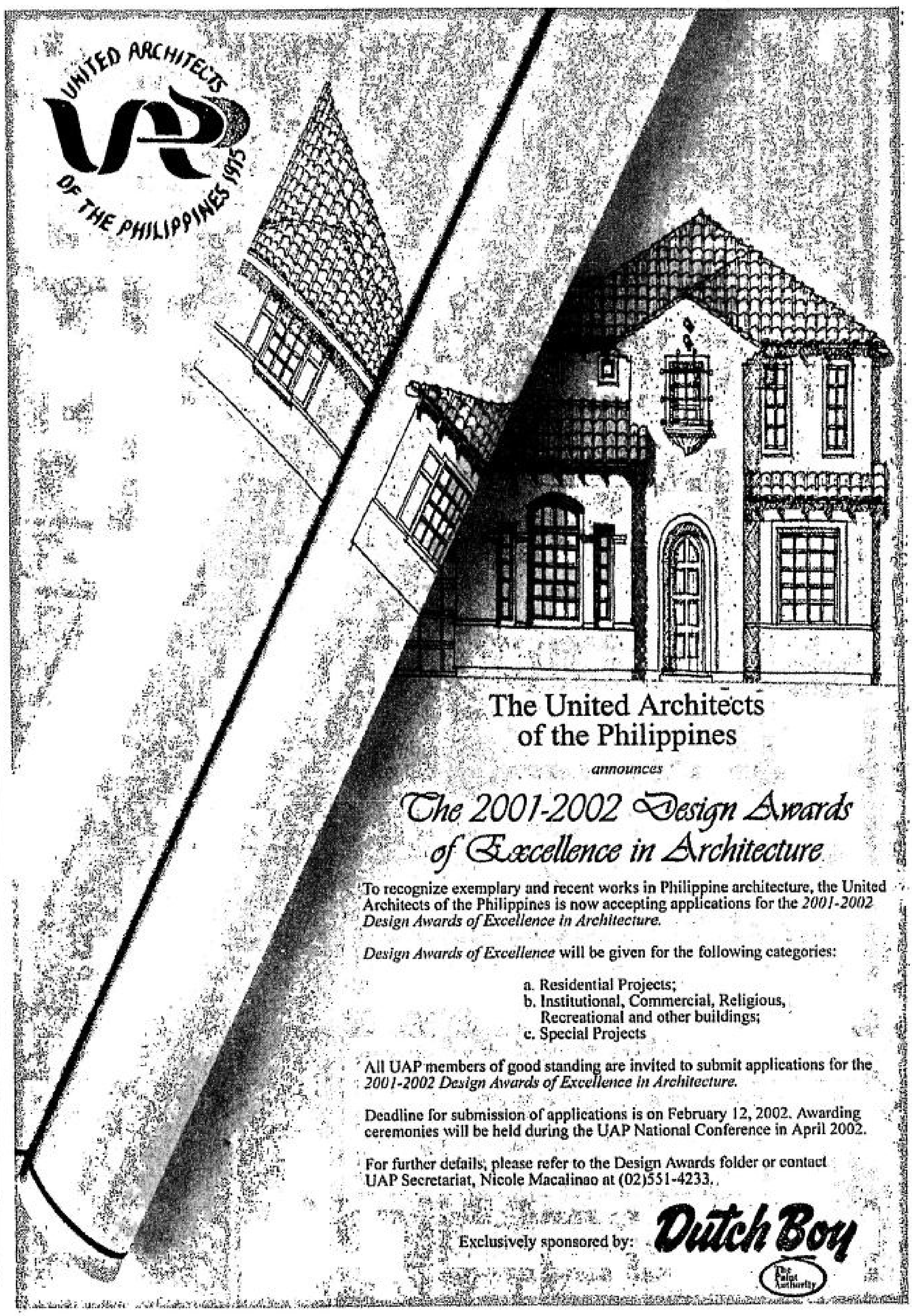
GARDEZ, Afghanistan—The Pentagon announced Wednesday that US Central Command, responsible for US military operations in Afghanistan, is attempting to verify its original claim that all of the estimated 15 people killed and the 27 taken prisoner were al-Qaida or Taliban fighters.

Local Afghans say that those killed were anti-Taliban forces loyal to Karzai and that among those arrested were a police chief, his deputy and members of a district council. They want an explanation for the raid and the release of the captives.

Two US senior military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Friday that while it does not look like all of those killed and captured were friendly to the government, some probably were.

In northern Afghanistan, special forces have scaled back their presence but military investigators are still "pursuing leads" on key Taliban figures or those linked to Bin Laden's network, a US Army officer said.

The reduction in the special forces contingent suggests US military interrogators have nearly finished with the major task of questioning the remaining 3,500 Taliban prisoners in a severely overcrowded compound in the northern city of Shibergan. *AP*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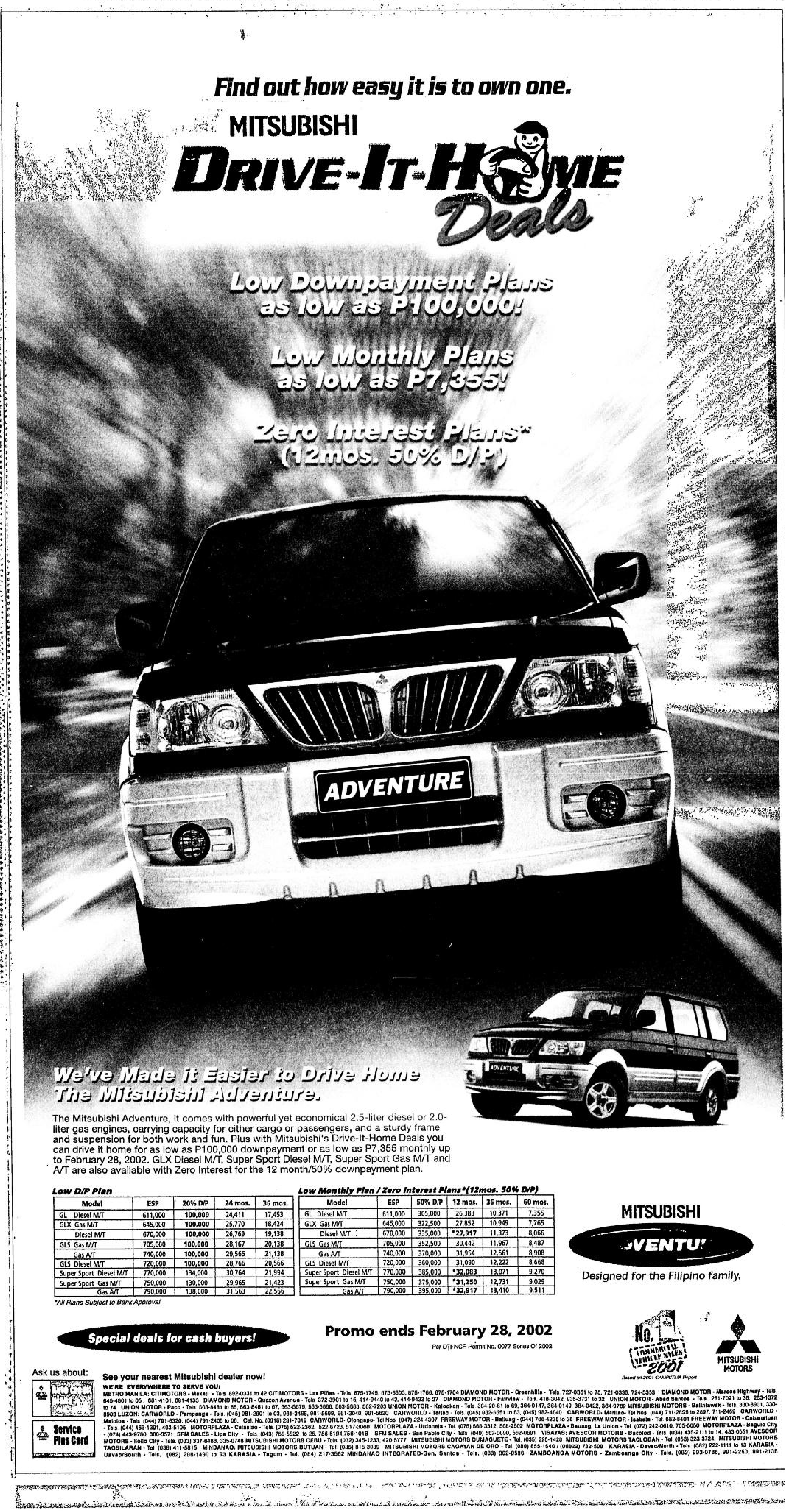

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Gas A/T	740,000	100,000	29,565	21,138
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	100,000	28,766	20,566
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	134,000	30,764	21,994
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	130,000	29,965	21,423
Gas A/T	790,000	138,000	31,563	22,566

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Model	ESP	50% D/P	12 mos.	36 mos.	60 mos.
GL Diesel M/T	611,000	305,000	26,383	10,371	7,355
GLX Gas M/T	645,000	322,500	27,852	10,949	7,765
Diesel M/T	670,000	335,000	*27,917	11,373	8,066
GLS Gas M/T	705,000	352,500	30,442	11,967	8,487
Gas A/T	740,000	370,000	31,954	12,561	8,908
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	360,000	31,090	12,222	8,668
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	385,000	*32,083	13,071	9,270
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	375,000	*31,250	12,731	9,029
Gas A/T	790,000	395,000	*32,917	13,410	9,511

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US eyes Russian base in Vietnam

HANOI—Washington has begun negotiations with former foe Hanoi for access to a key Soviet Cold War naval base on Vietnam's central coast after the Russian lease expires in 2004, US officials said here Saturday.

The US military is seeking an "arrangement" that will allow it to use the base at Cam Ranh Bay for port calls and support for its operations in Southeast Asia, Pacific commander Admiral Dennis Blair told reporters after talks here with Vietnamese officials.

But Washington is not looking to set up a permanent base here or anywhere else in Southeast Asia, he insisted.

Viewed as one of the best natural harbors in the region, the Cam Ranh Bay base was ironically originally built by the Americans but lost to the then Soviet Union following the US humiliation in the Vietnam War.

Lease

Last year a cash-strapped Moscow announced that it would give up the base when its 25-year lease runs out in 2004 as it can no longer afford it.

"The status of Cam Ranh Bay has obviously now changed with the end of the Russian lease," said Blair.

"We are looking for places for our ships to visit. We are looking for various arrangements to suit our needs in this region... It is important to us in this area of the world."

The launch of joint military operations with the Philippines Thursday against Abu Sayyaf guerrillas has prompted many analysts to point to the gaping lack of US facilities in southeast Asia since Washington closed its Philippine bases in 1992.

But Blair insisted Washington had "no desire to have more permanent bases in the region."

"What we seek is a flexible set of arrangements so we can cooperate with countries in the region and get the job done when the necessity is there."

Negotiations

Blair said he had discussed access to Cam Ranh Bay with "several" top Vietnamese officials although the negotiations were still in their "early stages."

On Friday he met Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and Defense Minister Phan Van Tra.

US ambassador Raymond Burghardt said one possible arrangement would be for Vietnam to declare Cam Ranh Bay open to port calls by foreign warships, as it has already done with the ports of Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City.

That arrangement would not be exclusive to the United States but would allow port calls by its warships.

"Vietnam has taken the position that its ports are open to ship visits on a multilateral basis," said Burghardt. *AFP*

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Sharon faces discontent, reservists' revolt

JERUSALEM—Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon faced Friday growing popular discontent and a revolt spreading among army reservists opposed to serving in the Palestinian territories, despite fear of a new wave of attacks on Israel.

Sharon's first negative poll ratings in months came as Israeli targets were still being targeted by suicide bombers and gunmen, even with repeated Israeli incursions into Palestinian territory and sweeping arrests of suspected militants.

Meanwhile, Israeli public radio reported Sharon met with senior Palestinian officials in Jerusalem Wednesday for the first time since he took office last March.

The radio was quoting unnamed Palestinian officials, but a source from Sharon's office said it had "no comment" on the report.

Sharon met with Palestinian Speaker Ahmed Qorei, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) executive committee Mahmud Abbas and economic advisor Mohammed Rashid, the radio said.

Sharon told the officials that he would continue to pressure Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to crack down on radical Palestinian activists, the radio said.

Of those questioned in Friday's public opinion poll in Israel's Maariv daily, 48 percent said they were happy with the way Sharon was handling his job overall, while 43 percent were unhappy.

Another 54 percent were dissatisfied with the way Sharon handles security questions, compared with 37 percent who expressed their satisfaction, the poll read.

Sharon was facing further domestic dissent as the refusenik movement gathered momentum, forcing Chief of Staff Shaul Mofaz to threaten insubordinate reservists with dismissal.

The petition launched on Jan. 25 by reservists refusing to serve in the Palestinian territories, so as not to participate in operations of "oppression," has sent shockwaves through Israel.

It received unexpected support Friday from a former security chief.

Ami Ayalon, former head of Israel's internal security agency Shin Beth, said he had "a lot of empathy for the reserve officers," and added that soldiers should not obey orders that were "blatantly illegal." ***AFP***

Pakistan says it killed 114 India soldiers

ISLAMABAD—Pakistani troops have killed 114 Indian soldiers in retaliatory fire across the disputed border in Kashmir over the past two months, a senior army officer said.

At least 87 Indian soldiers were killed when Pakistani troops targeted an ordnance depot in Jallas near Poonch town on the Indian side of the divided Himalayan state in mid-December, Brigadier Mumtaz Ahmed Bajwa said.

The attack also destroyed arms and ammunition, the official Associated Press of Pakistan quoted him as saying at a briefing in Chiri Kot, a forward post near the Line of Control (LoC) unofficial border in Kashmir on Friday.

"Due to the attack there were confirmed reports of 87 Indian soldiers killed while scores received injuries," the news agency said.

Bajwa said the attack was in retaliation for "indiscriminate firing" from across the LoC on civilians in mid-December.

He said 27 other Indian soldiers were killed in different incidents during the period, which has seen a dramatic escalation in tensions between the nuclear neighbors following a Dec. 13 terrorist attack on the Indian parliament.

India has demanded Pakistan end "cross-border terrorism" by stopping Islamic militants crossing the LoC to take part in the 13-year-old uprising against Indian rule in Muslim-majority Kashmir.

Some 800,000 troops are massed on both sides of the LoC, the de facto border in Kashmir, which has caused two of the three wars between Pakistan and India since they gained independence in 1947. ***AFP***

DEADLY BLAZE REUTERS

Kuwaiti firefighters walk Feb. 1 in front of a blazing fire at a key oil facility in northern Kuwait. Four people died in a huge blast at a key oil-producing area on Thursday night, caused by a leak from a pipeline, which spread to a power substation.

Fate of US reporter in Pakistan uncertain

ISLAMABAD—Pakistani and US police were searching on Saturday for kidnapped US journalist Daniel Pearl, after one message said he had been killed but another demanded the release of a top Taliban prisoner and $2 million.

Police in the southern port city of Karachi, where Pearl was abducted 10 days ago, said they had been hunting all night but had yet to find Pearl or determine the authenticity of the conflicting claims.

The search was concentrated on graveyards in Karachi after an email message sent to news organizations said the reporter's body had been dumped in a city cemetery.

"We've searched most of the graveyards in the city throughout the night but nothing was found," said a police official.

"We cannot ignore any threat or information, even if it's a hoax," said the police official who declined to be identified.

A US official, who asked not to be named, said earlier that news organizations had passed to the US government the e-mail, which said Pearl had been killed.

"We have killed Mr Danny," said the email, which was signed "Anti-American," the official said.

But there was a conflicting message.

A caller to the US consulate in Karachi late on Friday demanded $2 million and the release of former Taliban ambassador to Islamabad Mullah Abdul Salam Zaeef within 36 hours, Jamil said.

Wall Street Journal reporter Pearl, 38, disappeared in Karachi while working on a story about alleged shoe-bomber Richard Reid and trying to contact radical Islamic groups.

A group claiming to hold him has sent a number of e-mails threatening to kill Pearl and demanding the release of Pakistani prisoners captured by US forces during the Afghan war. ***Reuters***

Justice dep't tells White House to hold Enron papers

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush unveiled reforms on Friday to protect workers like those who lost their pension savings in the collapse of Enron Corp., while the justice department ordered the White House to hold onto documents dealing with the fallen energy trader.

The White House said it would comply with the request, which covers all written notes, letters and computer records related to Enron's financial condition and business interests since Jan. 1, 1999.

A justice department task force and the FBI have been conducting a criminal investigation into the collapse of Enron—Bush's top political contributor.

Separately, a judge ordered a White House energy task force to explain why it will not release details of meetings with Enron executives.

Bush announced the pension reforms at a Republican Party retreat at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, underscoring his party's concern that the demise of Enron could hurt Republicans in the Nov. 5 congressional elections.

The administration denies it gave any special favors to Enron, which made some $623,000 in contributions to Bush's campaigns since 1993.

Thousands of Enron workers lost their jobs and pension savings as the Houston-based energy trader unraveled last year amid allegations it misled investors about its finances while top executives reaped huge profits by selling their holdings.

Bush called for barring corporate executives from selling company stock during "blackout" periods like the one that kept Enron workers from bailing out while the company's shares plunged last year. The company last December filed the biggest bankruptcy in US history.

"If it's OK for the sailor, it ought to be OK for the captain," Bush said.

The president's proposal drew quick criticism from Washington's top Democrat, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, who said it "would do little, if anything, to restore public confidence in the private pension system."

"While it is encouraging that the administration now seems to recognize a need for government action in this area, the administration's proposal actually addresses only a small part of the problem—and does that inadequately," Daschle, of South Dakota, said in a statement. ***Reuters***

DUTCH Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and his bride, Argentinian Maxima Zorreguieta, arrive in a classic car at the Arene Feb. 1 in Amsterdan for the people's party. AFP

Prince weds Latin bride

AMSTERDAM—Amsterdam will be engulfed by Orange fever Saturday as Crown Prince Willem-Alexander marries Maxima Zorreguieta, who won over the Dutch with her Latin charm after initial controversy over her father's ministerial post in Argentina's military dictatorship.

Dignitaries from all around the world will attend the wedding of Queen Beatrix's oldest son including UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and many of the crowned heads of Europe.

But one important figure, the bride's father, Jorge Zorreguieta, will not be there.

Zorreguieta was agriculture minister for two years during Argentina's Videla military dictatorship, when up to an estimated 30,000 people were believed to have been killed.

At the time the engagement was announced, there were calls for Willem-Alexander, 34, to renounce his right to the throne. To allay public criticism, Maxima, 30, quickly denounced the regime her father had served and declared he would not be attending the wedding.

The New York investment banker managed to charm the Dutch people despite additional concerns she was a Catholic marrying into a Protestant family.

Some 4,000 policemen and women will be stationed around the Dam Square and along the route of the 30-minute carriage ride the newlyweds will take after the church ceremony, scheduled between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The army is also deploying 2,200 soldiers, who will be stationed at two-meter intervals along the route the couple will take. ***AFP***

Support for Japan PM dives

TOKYO—Public support for Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's Cabinet has crashed to 47 percent after he fired Makiko Tanaka as foreign minister, a poll showed Saturday.

The top-selling Yomiuri Shimbun daily said its nationwide phone survey found the approval rate was down a staggering 31 percentage points from its last phone survey in September.

The poll is the first comprehensive newspaper survey conducted since Koizumi late Tuesday fired the controversial but hugely popular Tanaka after she became embroiled in feuding with her civil servants.

The prime minister had enjoyed stratospheric poll ratings in the mid-80s after coming to power last April with a promise to implement hard-hitting reforms to salvage the Japanese economy.

"The sharp drop in public approval comes as a heavy blow to the Koizumi Cabinet, which has relied on its considerable popularity for its political clout," the Yomiuri said.

"The firing of the foreign minister has directly affected his popularity," it said.

Tanaka's dismissal is being seen as a victory for conservative politicians. ***AFP***

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Gensan jail now home to street kids

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Street urchins, commonly known as "Batang Tun-og (child of the dew)," could now seek temporary refuge at the old city jail here after it was converted into a home for street children.

The Gensan Home for Street Children, funded by contributions from civic action groups, was formally inaugurated on Tuesday.

The City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) decided to turn the building into a shelter for street urchins, after their number was observed to be increasing.

Officials and residents alike were alarmed that some of the children were involved in petty crimes.

The CSWDO renovated the old city jail at the cost of about P720,000 with financial assistance from the RD Foundation and the Rotary Club of General Santos.

At present, it serves as a halfway home for some 20 male and seven female minors.

Last year, Mayor Pedro Acharon launched a drive against juvenile thugs and ordered the police to apprehend street urchins found loitering from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.

However, the police had to call-off their operation after detention cells became crowded with offending youths.

Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

ROUNDUP

Polio elimination

ROSALES, Pangasinan—The Department of Health will conduct a door-to-door immunization campaign in Pangasinan to eliminate polio. Elinor Ganda of the DOH said Pangasinan was chosen because it has a higher population of children than each of the three provinces in the Ilocos region. Under the DOH's "Door-to-Door Patak" scheme, each rural health unit will have its own vaccination team that will administer oral polio vaccines to children below five years old. The vaccination drive is on Feb. 2-8 and March 2-8.
Erwin de la Rosa, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

2 hurt in blaze

GUIGUINTO, Bulacan—Two men were hurt in a two-hour fire that gutted three buildings of a plastic factory in Barangay Panginay on Wednesday. Police said Tiu Ke Bin, who owned the buildings, and Joselito Roque suffered minors burns. Damage was placed at P30 million. Police said the fire started at the third floor where workers were welding the steel doors. Sparks could have ignited the chemicals used to manufacture styrofoam, police said.
Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

3 kids drown

BAY, Laguna—Three children drowned on Thursday noon while swimming in Cabaltog River in Barangay Calo here. Police identified the victims as Marilou Revilla, 11; Mary Rose Lopez y Olaso, 8, and Maricel Lopez y Paran, 10, all pupils of the Calo Elementary School here. Neil John Hizon, 17, a diver who rescued one of two survivors, said he retrieved the bodies of the victims under some 20 feet of murky water of the river. The victims, were rushed to the Pagamutang Pangmasa ng Laguna at Barangay Maitim, where they were pronounced dead on arrival.
Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Weak El Niño seen

NAGA CITY—The El Niño phenomenon this year is expected to be weak, said an official of the Bicol River Basin Flood Forecasting Center. Arthur Balang, BRBFFC chief, said the abnormal effect on the weather will be felt starting the middle of the third quarter. Balang said that less rainfall will continue to occur in the last quarter and this will persist until the end of this year. But even with less rainfall in the last quarter, the occurrence of tropical cyclones is not discounted, he said. *Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

No suspect yet

NAGA CITY—Even as two parallel investigations are ongoing, the National Bureau of Investigation in Bicol is still empty-handed as to information on the suspects who shot dead Arthur Meliton San Jose, son-in-law of Sen. Blas Ople. San Jose was discovered dead with a bullet wound in his chest inside the toilet of a room at the Magayon Hotel in Legazpi City where he stayed. Medardo de Lemos, acting NBI Bicol regional director, clarified that the sketch the investigation agency had earlier made could not still be considered that of a suspect. De Lemos said the Philippine National Police and NBI office in Legazpi City are conducting separate investigations that focus on the people which San Jose had contacted and the places where he had been to in that city. *Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Norhern and Central Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly cloudy with rains	HI30° Lo18°
Baguio	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI 21° Lo 13°
Tuguegarao	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI 28° Lo 18°
Laoag	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI 29° Lo 20°
Clark Zone	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 19°
Tagaytay	Partly cloudy	HI 29° Lo 17°
Legazpi	Partly cloudy	HI 29° Lo 22°
Calapan	Partly cloudy	HI 30° Lo 20°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly cloudy	HI 30° Lo 24°
Roxas	Partly cloudy	HI 30° Lo 24°
Cebu	Partly cloudy	HI 31° Lo 22°
Tacloban	Partly cloudy	HI 31° Lo 22°
Gen. Santos	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 23°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly cloudy	HI 31° Lo 21°
Davao	Partly cloudy	HI 31° Lo 23°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/02/02/02

Priests neutral on Chavit

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

VIGAN CITY—Catholic priests in Ilocos Sur have adopted a neutral and independent position on the graft and plunder cases filed by the Save Ilocos Sur Alliance against former Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

"We are not toeing the line of any group as we are taking an independent and neutral stand on the cases filed against former Governor Singson," said Fr. Vicente Avila, president of the Ilocos Sur Priests' Assembly.

Earlier, Sisa challenged Catholic Church officials and priests in the province to clarify their position on the cases against Singson amid the perceived silence of the church on the issue of corruption in Ilocos Sur.

Avila said the priests considered the cases filed against Singson as "serious" and which needed a detailed response from the former governor.

"We are asking former Governor Singson (to) answer the charges filed against him through (the presentation of) evidence to prove his innocence," he said. "He should not just plainly give (blanket) denials and say that his accusers are being influenced by any individual or group."

Avila clarified that they are not exactly taking up Sisa's crusade against Singson.

"It (is coincidental) that we agree on some points," he said.

He said the priests' assembly would be waiting for the outcome of the cases against Singson.

Singson lauded the position taken by the priests. "It is best that (the priests) take a neutral stand and not allow themselves to be used by some groups to further their interests," he said.

He was confident that the cases would be eventually dismissed, he said.

The priests' assembly also criticized Sisa for its "negative comments" against Nueva Segovia Archbishop Edmundo Abaya.

"We wish to express indignation over the attempts of Sisa and some of their sympathizers to put the Nueva Segovia clergy on trial by publicity. We deplore the group's effort at grandstanding, i.e. its persistent and malicious attempts to discredit the archbishop and the clergy in Nueva Segovia (by) accusing them of 'silence' vis-a-vis the corruption cases against the administration of former Governor Singson," the assembly said in a statement.

"Silence is not always a form of cowardice. There are times when silence is the most prudent and best moral option as it provides enough space for discernment and prayerful reflection. The insinuation that the church is condoning corruption because it is a partner to the crime is grossly unfair and most irresponsible. Such accusations are baseless and contrary to fact. Our track record belies these allegations," the statement added.

The assembly said Abaya and the priests in the province "have never wavered in their prophetic stand against injustice, graft and corruption, illegal gambling, crime and violence, election irregularities and other forms of evil that threaten the stability of our nation."

But Nestor Segismundo, Sisa president, said the church should not blame Sisa for the negative perceptions.

"There is no deliberate effort on the part of Sisa to tarnish the reputation of the church leadership. It is only natural to wonder and speculate on the silence of the church leadership because we were used to its being active in social issues," Segismundo said.

Bringing back the glory of the Ilocano *banga*

By Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—Forget for awhile that the *banga* (earthen pot) gained notoriety in the film "Halimaw sa Banga" in the 1980s because city officials want to bring back the glory of the Ilocano *banga* in this year's Pamulinawen Festival, the city's annual fiesta celebrations.

The city tourism council is set to introduce the biggest Ilocano *banga* ever produced by earthenware-makers here during the week-long festival that began Feb. 1.

The "mother of all *banga*" took at least three weeks to make and will contain hundreds of kilos of pre-cooked Ilocano *pinakbet* (an Ilocano vegetable dish), according to Asuncion Fariñas, city tourism council chair.

The giant *banga*, which measures 1.5 meters in length and 3.5 meters in diameter, comes with an equally huge *dalikan* (earthen stove) to complete the Ilocano's traditional kitchen known among Ilocanos as the "dirty kitchen."

The *dalikan* does not only provide a place to cook dishes. Its size extends longer by one-and-a-half feet for roasting meat, fish or vegetables.

Gastora Cudal, 62, one of the oldest earthenware-makers in San Nicolas town, was commissioned to produce the *banga*.

At least two cartloads of clay extracted from a farmland were used to build the *banga* and *dalikan*. At least 15 men are needed to carry the pot and *dalikan* and load them into a cargo truck.

Cudal said she actually produced a smaller version of the *banga* because the weight of the bigger version she built earlier caused the pot to break.

BANGA-MAKING is considered a family enterprise in San Nicolas town, Pangasinan. Roger Cudal, son of the oldest *banga* maker in San Nicolas cooks the *banga* in an open fire to darken the pot. CRISTINA ARZADON

"My problem now is how to transport this giant pot to the city. We have to cut this pot into two and piece them together once we reach the display area," she said.

Cudal said cutting the pot was necessary to prevent it from cracking once it is hauled into the van.

Mayor Roger Fariñas will conduct a ceremonial cooking of the *pinakbet* before it is offered to residents.

The *banga* containing the *pinakbet* will be paraded on Feb. 6, the day of the Dulang Festival, an exhibit of Ilocano dishes cooked in a traditional way. The Dulang is a low dining table used in the olden times.

The exhibit features a variety of Ilocano dishes from *pinakbet*, *adobo*, *kaldereta*, *sinanglao*, *longganisa* and *bagnet*. It will also include Chinese, Muslim, American and Indian favorites.

"Old folks believe that the rice maintains its nutrients when it is cooked in a *banga*. Similarly, the *pinakbet* and *dinengdeng* retain their sweetness and aroma when prepared in a *banga*," Asuncion Fariñas said.

While most city households have switched to gas stoves to cook their food, some Ilocanos still maintain the *dalikan* and *banga* in their dirty kitchens to cook native delicacies.

The city government allotted P15,000 to buy the ingredients for the festival.

It solicited the support of at least 92 home economics teachers from the Department of Education, chefs and cooks of hotels and restaurants and housewives to cook the dishes.

The dishes will be displayed in 80 earthen pots during the festival and will be shared with guests and residents for sampling and feasting.

Mayor wants more GMO field trials in Camarines Sur

By Juan Escandor Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

NAGA CITY—A town mayor in Camarines Sur has expressed openness to further accommodate requests from agrochemical firms looking for an area to pilot genetically modified crops even as some groups here continue to oppose.

Elmo Bombase, Tigaon town mayor, said he finds Bt corn trials harmless and that the first one Monsanto Philippines established in his town showed encouraging results, without the harmful effects alluded to by its opponents.

Bombase said he is about to approve a request by Pioneer, another agrochemical firm involved in Bt corn trial farm experiment, to establish its own trial farm in his town.

He said he has also requested Monsanto Philippines to conduct its trial planting of genetically modified rice in Tigaon.

But Bombase said the stands and explanations regarding the effects and implications of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) that both its advocates and opponents expressed during a forum held here last year, convinced him.

He admitted that he was confused because both panels of discussants in the forum on GMOs consisted of scientists who came from the University of the Philippines.

Bombase said he verified through an ocular inspection of the Monsanto Philippines' Bt corn trial farm to see for himself the said harmful effects of the genetically modified crops to the environment and other organisms in the area.

The town mayor said he was expecting to see some insects and other organisms in the trial farm killed or mutated but he said he saw that none was harmed.

Bombase observed that in some corn farms in his town, a new kind of beetle was attacking the crops though he did not attribute this to the effects of the Bt corn trial farm.

But the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas-Bicol expressed surprise how Bombase could hastily make a conclusion that the Bt corn crop did not bring harm to the environment without the benefit of laboratory tests.

Willy Marbella, KMP-Bicol secretary general, said there is more than meets the eye concerning the issue of the environmental effects of the Bt corn and other GMO propagation.

Marbella argued that until now the GMO advocates have not showed evidence that its use will not bring harm to the environment and the health of the consumers.

He said that even as they have yet to see the study of the monitoring group the government has assigned to come out with the evaluation of the Bt corn trial farms, Bombase had officiously came out with his own conclusion.

Misuari is bankrupt, lives on donations but is happy in jail

COTABATO CITY—Jailed Moro leader Nur Misuari is financially bankrupt, lawyer Ely Pamatong claimed yesterday.

Pamatong, Misuari's personal lawyer said the former ARMM governor is penniless.

"He has no money, he is poor now," he told the INQUIRER.

Pamatong said monetary contributions from his supporters are sustaining Misuari's stay inside Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

He said the former rebel leader could not even raise funds to pay the services of lawyers that would defend him against rebellion charges filed by the Philippine government.

"He has nothing now, he has no money to pay for lawyers who will defend him in a hopeless case," Pamatong said.

But even if he has no money, Pamatong said Misuari is happy although he constantly complains about the "salty foods and other non-*halal* foods being fed to him."

"That is why he lost some weight . . . he is not in his excellent health," he said.

Also, he claimed that Misuari is experiencing an erratic blood pressure.

Pamatong said Misuari was coping with his detention.

He said the former governor starts his day with a prayer at about 4:30 a.m.

Misuari would then jog around his room, complete his personal hygiene and would sit down to write his memoirs.

"It consumes most of his time in a day," Pamatong said. ***Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Copra prices rising in E. Visayas-PCA

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—There's good news for coconut farmers: The prices of copra from the farm and mill levels are on a rebound, according to the regional office of the Philippine Coconut Authority in Eastern Visayas.

Joel Pilapil, PCA assistant regional manager, said that since Jan. 2 up to the end of the month, the farmgate and millgate prices of copra are showing an increasing trend.

"We just hope that this (trend) will continue this year," he told INQUIRER.

Based on their monitoring, the copra farm price ranges from P6.30 to P7.60 per kilo while the copra mill price ranges from P7.40 to P10 per kilo.

In Tacloban City, the mill price of copra stands at P10.30.

The increasing prices of copra recorded this year, shows that the coconut industry is recovering from the slump of the past years, Pilapil said.

The copra mill price dipped to as low as P5.06 at the height of the slump last March.

PCA's barometer in saying that the industry is recovering is the breakeven price set, which is P7.50 per kilo when sold directly from the farm.

Pilapil said this development is good for the region's 361,000 coconut farmers. But Pilapil also expressed concern that the upswing might be short-lived because a draught caused by the El Niño weather phenomenon was projected to hit the country in April.

"We also have to consider the fact that our region is typhoon-prone. And again, we cannot (predict) what will happen at the world market," he said.

Eastern Visayas ranks number three in the production of copra in the country, with an annual export income ranging from $15 million to $17 million.

Japan is the region's biggest export market. The region also exports its copra to Malaysia, Europe, China, Indonesia, Mexico and Singapore.

The copra industry also contributes 30 percent to the regional growth.

Thirty-one percent of the region's land area is devoted to coconut production with Leyte having the biggest area.

INQUIRER*Mindanao*

Jun Bandayrel, Editor ■ Nico A. Alconaba, Bureau Chief

Jabidah Massacre of the new millennium

By Yasser Ibn Ibrahim
Contributor

I WAS one of the civilians who joined the rally in the afternoon of that fateful day of Jan. 15 in Jolo. The rally would have remained peaceful had it not been for three suspicious men in civilian clothes about to lob grenades to the civilians.

The police arrested two of them but the angry crowd mauled them. The authorities later confirmed the two as Marine soldiers.

Fifteen minutes later, a military jeep loaded with armed Marines appeared and after cursing *"Mga p....ina ninyo!"* (sons of a bitch), they immediately opened fire at the ralliers and the policemen guarding the rally. Fighting ensued and 20 minutes later, an Army integree, an SMG (Special Mobile Group)-PNP member, nine Marines and four civilians were dead. At least 20 others were wounded.

Trust

After that experience, I do not know if I could still trust the military, especially the non-Muslim ones. Right now I only trust the Metro Jolo Internal Defense Force (MJIDF)—Army integrees, the Jolo Police and the SMG integrees because they were the ones who protected us during that rally. In fact, the officials of Jolo, through a resolution, had commended them for their gallantry and heroism in protecting us that Tuesday afternoon. All of those "heroes" are Muslims too.

And now that the SMG police have been transferred to Parang, Maguindanao, my edginess is increasing. Every night before I sleep, I still see the faces of the terror-stricken civilians running for cover. They were like schools of fishes thrown with dynamite. I could still see myself hiding behind that flower box in front of the Jolo police station amidst the firing of guns. I still see those veiled women on the stage running like spilled tomatoes from a *bayong*. I still see that young SMG police who got hit on the leg and fall.

Carnage

I still remember that brave rallier without a shirt on shouting *Allahu Akbar* (Allah is Great) at the center of the street not minding the carnage around. And I still hear the shouts of *Allahu Akbar* from the sound system on the stage. It blended with the staccato of high-powered guns and reverberated like the voices of the Angel Izra-eel, the Angel of Death summoning the souls of the martyrs and reaping the souls of the wicked.

I can still see the horror of that dreadful day. In fact I was compelled to write this article to free myself of fear and with the hope that the specter inside my head will go away as I type a word on the keyboard.

There are many questions that I want to ask.

I want to ask the Philippine government why are they undermining the right of the Muslims to peaceful assembly. Why did the military have to disperse about 4,000 peaceful civilians—who had a permit from the office of the Mayor and who were already secured by the local police—with grenades and guns?

Are we Muslims not allowed to exercise our freedom of expression and peaceful assembly?

I thought the Muslims are citizens of democratic Philippines and are accorded the same right of redressing their grievances through non-violent means like other Filipinos.

Anti-Muslim?

But the recent incident proved me wrong.

Is the Bill of Rights applicable only to non-Muslim Filipinos?

Does the Philippine government want us all to go to the hills and join the Abu Sayyaf?

I see non-Muslim ralliers on television rallying without permit in front of Malacañang calling President Macapagal-Arroyo *inutil* (useless) and they were even burning her effigy but how come they were not dispersed with grenades and guns?

The worst dispersal I saw on TV was those aided with water cannons and teargas but only if the crowd was "unruly."

Why disperse an orderly and peaceful Muslim crowd that has no anti-GMA slogans on their placards?

When did the Philippine government, through its Armed Forces, become terrorists? Do they share training and philosophy with al-Qaida? Are not the military our protectors? Or are they the protectors of the interests of their commanders and the institution they represent?

Right now the confidence of the Bangsamoro (the Muslims in the Philippines) on the Philippine government is drifting away. I hope the government can make clarify those things while there is still some thread of confidence left in them and before things get out of control.

Probe

I also fervently hope there will be no whitewash in the investigation by the House Committee on National Defense chaired by Rep. (Prospero) Pichay of Surigao del Sur.

HIS GRANDMOTHER takes care of Aldimar Kadil, 12, who was hit during a gunbattle in a pro-Misuari rally in Jolo.
DENNIS SABANGAN

They should expedite it with impartiality. The deafening bangs of the guns on that ill-fated day should not be silenced by "damage controls" and legislative cacophonies. Let the truth out though the heavens may fall.

The Philippine government, for its part, should explain to the Bangsamoro people the terror in Jolo of Jan. 15.

If they cannot explain this matter, it will (encourage) the perception of the Bangsamoro who have began to equate the terror in Jolo of that fateful day to the Jabidah Massacre in the late 1960s which played a pivotal role in the war in Mindanao when it gave birth to the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). And again unless explanations are given, the Bangsamoro will believe and eventually accuse the Philippine government of perfidy by bringing into disrepute the MNLF, its co-party to the 1996 Peace Agreement and the sole representative of the Bangsamoro people to the OIC (Organization of Islamic Countries), by breaking up its leadership that eventually ended in the arrest of Chair Nur Misuari.

If the Philippine government cannot correct such transgression, its anti-Muslim policy will be highlighted outside the Philippines and international opinion will be in favor of the Bangsamoro.

Surprise

The OIC as always, is on the lookout and we should not be surprised when countries like Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and other Muslim countries stop recruiting and hiring non-Muslim Filipino workers.

Or worse, stop supplying us oil just like what had happened during the height of the "Moro Rebellion" in the 1970s. I could not imagine what will become of our already frail economy.

An immediate resolution is therefore required if those acute repercussions are to be averted. I beseech the Philippine government not to vacillate in responding to this very serious issue.

Finally, I would like to advise President Macapagal-Arroyo to listen to the voice of the oppressed because God often grants their prayers.

Yasser Ibn Ibrahim, 29, one of the thousands of unemployed in Jolo.

'We were harassed so we returned fire'

By Noralyn Mustafa
Jolo, Sulu

THE INCIDENT in Jolo of Bloody Tuesday is still under investigation, amid accusations and finger-pointing between the protagonists, the Marine battalion and the Philippine National Police's special mobile group, and the many versions of just how it started, and who fired the first shots.

More than 20 people, nine of them Marine soldiers, died in the firefight.

Col. Adelo Jandayan, chief of the 2nd Marine Battalion, gave an exclusive interview over Radyo ng Bayan dxSM in Jolo. Here are excerpts from the interview:

I would like to make it clear that we in the Marines especially the 2nd battalion under my command, have not been in conflict with the police since we have been assigned here. I would like to dispel notions that some sectors are trying to make it appear that we are quarrelling with the PNP, especially the special mobile group.

I would like to emphasize that since our arrival here last April, we have been harmoniously working with them. We were with them in securing (the) elections.

Except maybe because of what happened (on Jan. 15), and I have to really face this, I will (have to mention that incident where) last Dec. 24, an MNLF commander of Luuk, led the ambush (on us).

Before that, (when) we went to their area, we were harassed, so we returned fire, until we drove them away from their camp. That was Dec. 22. On Dec. 24, he led the police integrees in that ambush in Tanduh Batu.

But even that did not affect our relations (with the SMG), because in fact on Dec. 29, when we conducted (an) ocular inspection in Luuk, there were SMG elements with us, almost 50 of them, sent by (Sulu police provincial director) Col. (Ahirum) Adjirim. So I do not see any reason why people will say that we were quarrelling with them.

The incident that transpired the other day is just very unfortunate. We are one of the units operating in Sulu, and my specific order of operations is in the second district, particularly in the Luuk, Kalingalan Caluang area, and our intelligence (work) is also being conducted here, just like those of the PNP, etc.

So on the first day (of the rally) we dispatched two of our intelligence operatives to cover. Those two operatives were the same ones who were there on the second day. As I have verified from the other intelligence personnel, even on the first day—I don't want to cover up that grenade-throwing incident—they also had a grenade with them.

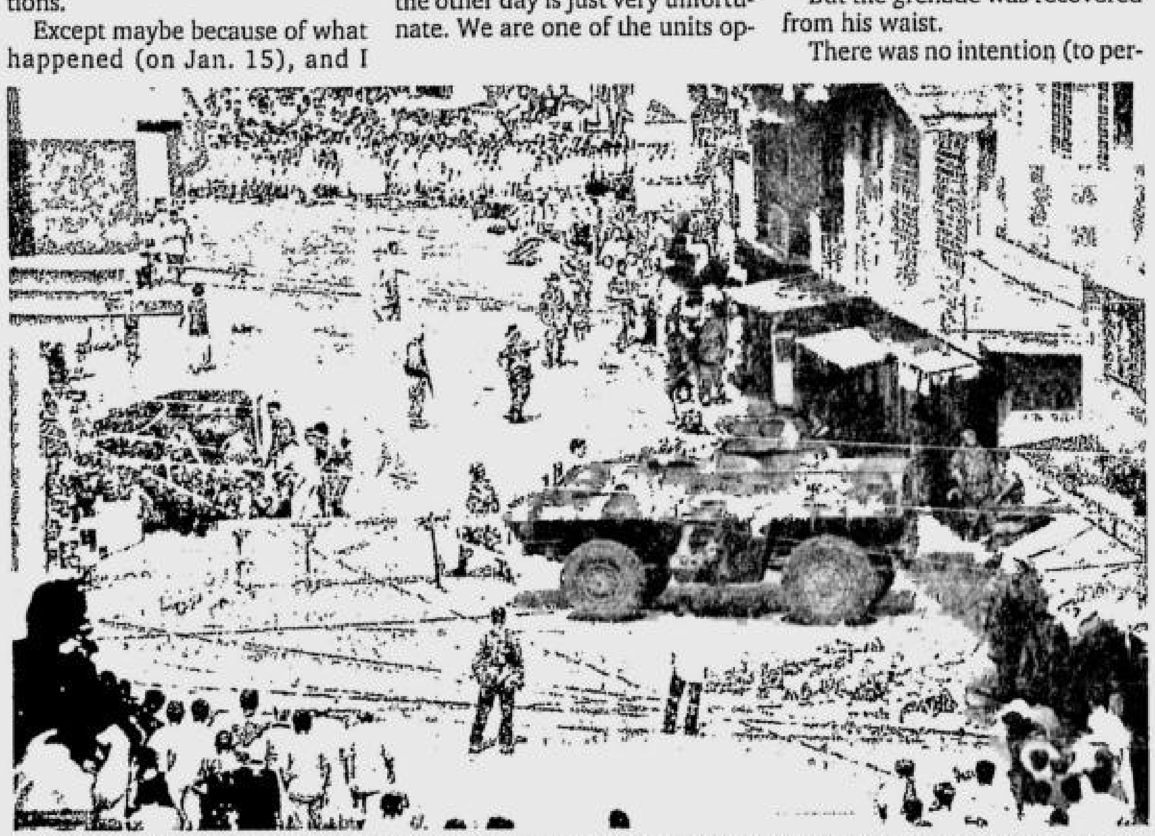
No explosion

This (being armed with a grenade) is not really SOP (standard operating procedure) but these are some measures (undertaken) by some operatives for their protection. I want to establish this to dispel the notion that he lobbed the grenade at the crowd.

In fact there was no explosion. People can attest to that. Because if he was about to lob (the grenade), he should have already pulled out the pin and it would have been ready to explode.

But the grenade was recovered from his waist.

There was no intention (to perform) any hostile action. Because first and foremost, he had a specific job to do, which was just to conduct an intelligence coverage and report what transpired.



SCOUT Rangers accompanied by military vehicles retrieve their comrade killed in Simpang Street, Jolo, Sulu, on Jan. 15.
DENNIS SABANGAN

On the first day there was really nothing much (reported). Of course there were some inflammatory remarks, from some of the speakers. (The intelligence operatives) understood Tausug. They (the rally speakers) exhorted the ralliers to rise up against the government, because according to them, Misuari (was) being detained without any reason, and they wanted him freed.

Our men were just in T-shirts, and maybe somebody was able to detect (the grenade on his waist). They saw his officially issued service firearm. To all intents and purposes, I don't think he would have used it, because we did not issue such instructions.

So, he was reported to the police securing the area, the SMG. So he was accosted. The one with the grenade was the one who was mobbed and mauled. Even if he lived, he would have gone blind. But even the one taken into custody by the SMG was also mauled.

Insult

But adding insult to injury were the reports that he lobbed the grenade, which has many implications here. There was nothing that transpired to prove this. It was recovered from his waist, just one grenade. Whoever was responsible for recovering that grenade from my personnel should be man enough to tell the world *na isa lang talaga 'yon* (that it was the only one).

We had one (employee) who was in town for some personal errand. He saw the commotion and the crowd mauling a soldier, so he came here (Camp Teodulfo Bautista) to report it.

Then on his own, he got whatever vehicle was available here. It was a spontaneous act. But I would like to emphasize here that the buck stops with me. I hold myself responsible for the actions of my men, whether I was informed about it or not.

In that particular situation I was not informed, just the same, as commander of the Marine battalion here, I assume responsibility for that indiscretion of my men.

So some men went with him, they were just in slippers, some were even in shorts. I don't see any reason, because people might think that way, that our men went there to create hostilities, or to attack the security personnel there or the SMG.

I could no longer ask my men because they are all dead. Two were able to escape but I could not investigate them because they had to be confined to the hospital right after the incident because they were also hit.

But according to the civilians who came here, there were 11 in the jeep. If their intention was to create trouble, that would not be the set-up. Although they were not able to even wear their combat boots, the maneuver would be different. But there was no maneuver. They did not get down from the jeep, except the one who reported the incident.

Witnesses

Civilian bystanders came personally and related the incident. They were eyewitnesses and they pitied the victims. The versions they heard, that my operative lobbed a grenade, were unfair, and were not true.

I just would like to tell the truth, because it is very painful for us. We are the ones who had the most (number of) casualties, and to top it all, they are making so many false accusations.

If my men intended to inflict injuries on the ralliers, or the security elements there, they would have from the start gone into tactical formation. But because they did not have that intention, they did not act accordingly.

The only one who got down the jeep and tried to approach was the one who brought them there because he was the one who knew about it. The rest just stayed in the jeep, which was parked just a few meters away. The area was cordoned off. According to the bystander, my man was angrily hurling invectives and shouting at (the crowd) *"ilabas ninyo yung tao namin."*

(Despite that) he was ignored. They said he fired his M16 rifle into the air, two or three rounds. These are lapses for which I am holding myself responsible, even if (their acts) were not based on my instructions. Since *tao ko siya* (he is under me), I am the commander, I will take the consequences.

I would also like to make it clear that it was not a reinforcement. Because in a reinforcement, (there) should have been a tactical setup. But they were there to rescue their comrade who was being mauled. Besides, their jeep would not have gone that near to the crowd.

No intention

My people know the doctrine. Getting close to the ralliers, that means there was no intention to fire. I suppose civilians will understand this. It if it was a reinforcement, my men would have gone into tactical formation and opened fire immediately.

But on the other hand, if the security cordon there, composed of the SMG personnel—all of them I think are MNLF integrees, I also have information that some of them were Army integrees—if they were properly organized, there should have been a team to confront (my men), they should not have opened fire at once.

They panicked right away. In the first place, it was a warning shot, it was not hostile fire. In fact this afternoon I received a report that the men did not even fire. *Pinaputukan na sila.* (They were fired at). So all of them, *bumanat na* (fired back). In fact I have a sketch here showing their positions. My men were not able to fire back.

They were able to disembark from the jeep but they were already hit. The one who got down was able to run, trying to get back to the jeep, but he was hit in the back. One was able to run and take cover, the other was able to run to the camp. And he was the one who reported to us, *"wala na, ubos na lahat ang mga tao natin"* (no more, all our men have been wiped out).

They were riddled with bullets. This will be shown in the autopsy. They should just have been crippled, but even when they have already fallen, they were still being shot at. There was one (among those shooting them) who was only in short pants. But he was wearing a bandolier. Some were changing magazines while shooting at them, when in fact they were already dead.

Thanks to Gift of Life, Jerden ready to go home

From page A1

immigrant visa chief, e-mailed Bo Eric Sandberg who manages the boes.org website that was instrumental in bringing attention to Jerden's plight.

When Jerden and Eden arrived in New Jersey, they were met by the family of Andrew Topp, Gift of Life Foundation Rotary District 7490 chair, and Romeo Abenoja whose family would host Jerden and Eden in the America.

Erica Topp, Andrew's 17-year-old daughter and executive secretary of the Gift of Life District 7490, gave Jerden a cuddly bear and a Pooh balloon. To Eden, she gave a card and a bouquet of fresh red roses.

The next day, Jerden was brought to the Hackensack University Medical Center at 9 p.m. where she was diagnosed to have pneumonia. Tests were done, from EKG, chest x-rays, and blood tests. She was also given a respirator and nebulizer because she had difficulty breathing. She was released at 3 a.m.

Like family

"Henrietta Abenoja bought Jerden antibiotics and everything she needed while under observation at home. She has been very kind to us and treated us like her own family," Eden wrote of her host family.

In just two days, Jerden became well. She reacted positively to the antibiotics.

"The Abenojas bought her baby food and promised to buy her candies and go to New York City once she gets well. They asked her to call them Mommy and Daddy," Eden wrote.

The Topps phoned Eden everyday to check on them.

On Jan. 22, Jerden was admitted at the Montefiore Medical Center for a series of tests in preparation for her surgery.

"The Abenojas and Mr. Shondfeld, the president of Bergenfield (New Jersey) Rotary Club, accompanied us to the hospital."

Eden met the hospital's director for the pediatric heart station, who assured her of a 100-percent success of the scheduled surgery.

On Jan. 23, Jerden underwent cardiac catheterization for the surgery the next day, Jan. 24.

After the surgery, Jerden was transferred to the ICU for observation. Three days later, she was transferred to the hospital's brand new pediatric critical care unit.

Jerden was discharged on Jan. 26, the third day after surgery.

"I think that is a GOL record!" said Erica Topp in an email to Sandberg on Jan. 27.

"(Jerden) was very quiet but in good spirits. Eden is also well, she did seem a bit drained, but happy to be leaving the hospital," she said.

Beneficiaries

Aside from Jerden, 10-month-old Joshua Perez also underwent heart surgery last month at Montefiore. He was also sponsored by the Gift of Life Rotary District 7490.

Another Gift of Life beneficiary, 3-year-old John Morados of Zamboanga City, flew to New Jersey last week for a heart operation scheduled this month.

The US Embassy has assured visas for all Gift of Life beneficiaries after correcting its error in Jerden's case.

Other Rotary districts in the United States have also their own Gift of Life programs which have benefited Filipino kids with congenital heart disease.

"It's all about saving children's lives," said a brochure of the Gift of Life Rotary District 7490 who has sponsored more than 200 children since 1986.

Rotary districts throughout the United States have participated in saving over 3000 children from more than 36 countries.

"When we give a Gift of Life we share our country's good fortune. Our children from all over the world, including the United States, from every creed and color. The children we save today will become the leaders of tomorrow," said a statement from the Gift of Life Rotary District 7490.

For Eden, she is just extremely thankful that her "bundle of joy" Jerden is saved, and that her fate had not been like that of her father who had died because help for his heart problem came too late.

Wholesome fun only for US troops

From page A1

soldiers away from the girlie bars in Zamboanga City, Philippine military officials have taken it upon themselves to organize entertainment for the visiting troops.

The plan is for the Armed Forces' Southern Command headed by Cimatu to hire local singers and comedians for exclusive shows.

Around 100 US soldiers participating in the RP-US "Balikatan 02-1" are staying at the Southcom headquarters in Zamboanga City. Some 500 others are expected to arrive in the next two weeks.

"Their rest and recreation will be organized," AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan said yesterday at President Macapagal-Arroyo's weekly TV program, "May Gloria ang Bukas Mo."

Adan conceded "the need of the troops, Filipinos and Americans, for entertainment."

"So the plan of General Cimatu is to organize entertainment programs for the Americans," he said. "Maybe we will bring in our singers and comedians."

Adan, however, added that they expected the Americans to behave themselves.

He said the visitors were under the "tight control" of Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster, commander of the US Special Forces in the Pacific.

"These troops are highly trained. These are elite forces. They are more mature (and) very security-conscious," he said, adding:

"We don't foresee that they will hang around the bars in Zamboanga City to avail themselves of the kind of entertainment (in such places)."

Last month, Zamboanga bar girls said they were anticipating the arrival of the US forces.

But the President assured critics of the joint military exercise that she would limit the US troops' rest and recreation activities to prevent a surge in prostitution.

Adan said they would even let the Americans visit the country's "tourist spots."

"We encourage them to visit other parts of the Philippines to look at our tourist spots," he said. "They can go to other places, but not in the area of operations."

US troops: Off limits to girlie bars.

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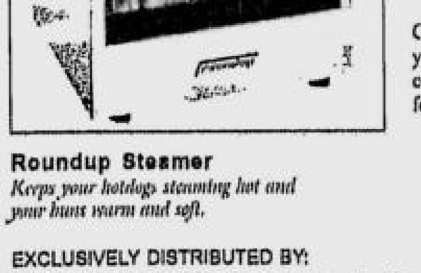
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GMA to open RP air space, bases for war on terrorism

By Tony Bergonia

NEW YORK—In what could create another firestorm of protests at home, President Macapagal-Arroyo promised to open Philippine air space and military bases to countries belonging to the US-led international coalition against terrorism.

Ms Macapagal made the promise in her speech before the World Economic Forum where he reaffirmed her administration's commitment to give all-out support to the war on terrorism.

A summary report of the President's speech did not provide other details about her plan to open the country's air space and bases.

In her speech, the President also vowed to undertake two other steps in supporting the fight against terrorism.

Ms Macapagal said she would also draw up an agreement with Malaysia and Indonesia to protect Southeast Asian waters against terrorism.

Her third plan calls for the establishment of closer ties with the Muslim community in the Philippines.

The Macapagal administration is at present holding talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, a rebel group seeking to establish an independent Islamic state in Mindanao.

The President has come under fire from various groups after she allowed American troops to enter the Basilan combat zone in the ongoing RP-US training exercise, dubbed "Balikatan 02-1."

Ms Macapagal, however, has insisted that the exercise is in accordance with the Visiting Forces Agreement and does not violate the constitutional ban on the presence of foreign combat troops on Philippine soil.

Over in a year

In Hanoi, the visiting commander of the US forces in the Pacific on Saturday also sought to allay fears of various sectors that the United States planned to station troops in the Philippines.

Admiral Dennis Blair, commander in chief of the US Pacific Command, said he expected American troops to finish in less than a year their operations in Mindanao aimed at wiping out the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

On Thursday, US troops began a training program for Filipino soldiers battling the Abu Sayyaf.

Blair said the program would be evaluated after an initial six months to determine how long it should continue.

"I anticipate our involvement there will be in months, not years," Blair said during his visit to Vietnam.

The exercise will eventually involve 660 US soldiers, including 160 Special Forces who will be deployed among Philippine military units.

Blair said the US troops would focus on technical training, building intelligence capabilities, and maintenance and supply skills, rather than on supplying new equipment.

"The focus of our effort in the Philippines is against the Abu Sayyaf. It is this group that has historical links and some contemporary links with the al-Qaida," he said. "It's in the center of our crosshairs now."

Some Filipinos fear that the United States is using the training exercise to gain a military foothold in the Philippines after American bases were closed in the early 1990s.

Blair said the United States had no interest in establishing new bases in the Philippines.

"We have no desire to have more permanent bases in the region. What we seek is flexible arrangements" for visits by US ships in many countries, he said.

Reassurances

In Zamboanga City, the head of US troops taking part in the exercise on Saturday offered reassurances that while US Special Forces intend to enter combat zones, they would only use their weapons in self-defense.

"The comparisons (with Afghanistan) are, I think, not terribly dramatic other than the fact that we have an ally that wants to destroy terrorism," Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster told Associated Press Television News in his first interview since arriving in the Philippines.

"We want to destroy terrorism and they've asked for certain kinds of help. We're offering that certain kind of help."

In helping fight terrorism, the United States would abide by the limits set by democratic nations such as the Philippines, which has been offered US combat assistance but rejected it, Wurster said.

"What we want to do is provide the capability where we can in a methodology that supports your laws and Constitution," Wurster said.

Although most of the Americans haven't arrived yet, the training exercise officially opened Thursday. It could see about 160 Special Forces among the 660-strong US contingent accompany Filipino troops to war zones in Basilan, an Abu Sayyaf stronghold.

Two US Air Force C-130 planes on Saturday arrived in Zamboanga City with crates of equipment for the exercise. About 220 US soldiers are now in Zamboanga, mostly in the heavily secured headquarters of the Southern Command, according to military spokesperson Maj. Noel Detoyato.

While many Filipinos, exasperated with their military's failure to crush the Abu Sayyaf, have welcomed the US troops, left-wing groups and many intellectuals traditionally wary of Washington have opposed it with small, rowdy small protests at the US Embassy and Malacañang in Manila.

Wurster said it was important for American soldiers to observe their counterparts in combat, and for both sides to help each other improve intelligence work to bolster offensive operations.

"I would not understate the fact that there are gonna be American forces that are accompanying Philippine commanders and their units into dangerous places," Wurster said.

"It's inherent in any military man's frame of reference that the right to defend oneself is assumed. I don't think that should be a point of debate."

Wurster thanked the Philippine military for providing adequate security to US troops, saying "there are many people who would like to hurt us here."

Despite the risks, he emphasized the need to immediately end the Abu Sayyaf threat.

"The difficulty that we have right now in Basilan is that a small number of terrorists hold the entire island hostage," he said. ***With reports from AP***

US aid gives Rangers hope

From page A1

his 29 years fighting guerrillas. "But they (Americans) have more high-tech equipment than we do. That is the help we need."

That desire is shared by the 700 Scout Rangers at the forward base, who are saddled not only with the lack of proper military equipment but also a bad image.

Philippine officers have been accused of making deals with the ransom-rich Abu Sayyaf, particularly after the bandits mysteriously escaped from a hospital that was surrounded by soldiers last June.

The Rangers are also accused of human rights abuses and alienating locals, sometimes allegedly beating and killing prisoners.

But poor equipment—along with the dense, rugged Basilan jungle—helps explain why 7,000 Filipino soldiers haven't eliminated the less than 100 Abu Sayyaf bandits on an island measuring roughly 25 by 40 km.

"They can eavesdrop on our radios. Even our telephone calls," Almodovar says of the Abu Sayyaf, which reportedly used multimillion-dollar ransoms from kidnapping tourists two years ago to buy better guns, speedboats and high-tech gear.

WWII vintage

In contrast, the Rangers only have four sets of night-vision goggles and one grenade launcher per 80-man company, according to Almodovar.

For mobility, the Rangers depend on World War II-era jeeps that are maintained by innovative mechanics.

They also have to make do with meager pay. An enlisted man receives a starting salary of only P7,000 a month while an officer gets about P18,000.

A dire need for helicopters keeps wounded soldiers waiting in the jungle for hours, if not days. With no satellite monitors, Rangers rely on informants who report enemy sightings by hiking to the nearest base or camp, allowing the bandits time to move or stage an ambush.

In such combat situations, even the single sleek US speedboat anchored near the American barracks in Zamboanga City, about 20 km from Basilan, can make a difference.

When the Abu Sayyaf bandits kidnapped 17 Filipinos and three Americans from Palawan's Dos Palmas beach resort last May 27, their double-engine volvo speedboat easily left the pursuing Philippine Navy vessel behind.

The Abu Sayyaf later beheaded several hostages, including Guillermo Sobero of Corona, California. The rest were released after reportedly paying ransom.

SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER: Co-directors of the joint RP-US military exercise, Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster (left) of the US Special Operations Command, and Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio at the Southcom headquarters in Zamboanga City on Saturday. AP

TIGHT security at the Zamboanga City airport ensures a safe take-off of a C-130 after unloading more supplies. DENNIS SABANGAN

Secretly trained

The Philippine Light Reaction Company, made up of former Rangers trained secretly by US Special Forces last year, is relatively better equipped than other military units.

Members of the Light Reaction Company don Motorola walkie-talkies with headsets, new rifle-mounted grenade launchers, thermal imagers and other cutting-edge equipment. But the company can only afford to keep a few men in combat for more than a few weeks at a time.

Reports of US air surveillance that can detect body heat through solid rock boosts the confidence of 25-year-old Ranger Lt. Elvino Rivera.

"We could wipe out the Abu Sayyaf now if we had the same equipment as the Americans," says Rivera, whose fresh face and braces offset a harder look from five battles in eight months.

"But, in combat, the Americans can learn something from us too," he adds.

His friends attest to his 24 confirmed kills in five years of fighting.

Few, if any, US military units have the combat experience of the Philippine Scout Rangers, a regiment of 1,700 or so fighting for decades.

Training is so savage it shocks US observers. It is considered acceptable that 6 percent of Ranger candidates die.

Month four of training ends with a shooting test. Each trainee must shoot two water bottles out of his buddy's hands from 25 meters.

"We've had some accidents," Rivera says.

Month five starts with a patrol that ends only when recruits find and fight guerrillas.

Will to fight

Countering claims that the Philippine military lacks the will to fight, Ranger Maj. Charlie Galvez seeks to reassure Americans.

"(Abu Sayyaf leader) Abu Sabaya has killed 14 of my men," the camp commander says. "It's personal now."

In an interview with the US broadcasting network CBS in New York, President Macapagal-Arroyo also assured the American public that the Philippine military was doing its best to rescue the Burnhams.

"Nearly 50 soldiers have been killed trying to rescue them," Ms Macapagal said.

She said the training exercise would be beneficial to both sides.

Some members of the US contingent in Mindanao acknowledge that they have been learning a lot from Filipinos not only at the frontline but also in the medical field.

Lt. Col. John Andreshak, an orthopedic soldier of the 59th Medical Wing of the Lockland Air Force Base in Texas said that Filipino military doctors based at the Southern Command headquarters in Zamboanga City had taught him about the treatment of tropical diseases such as malaria and dengue. ***Reports from AP, Tony Bergonia in New York, and Julie S. Alipala and Anthony S.Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Greenhouse farming yields botanical Utopia

From page A1

toes worthy of a gourmet's respect.

Impressive yields like these are increasingly being replicated in private greenhouse farms that have been put up in such places as Davao, Bukidnon, Cebu, Tagaytay City, Laguna, Nueva Ecija and Benguet since the late 1990s. Most of these farms have relied on supplies and know-how imported from Israel, whose own agriculture sector heavily relies on this technology to cope with limited water resources.

In a press tour of greenhouse farms sponsored by the Embassy of Israel last week, its agricultural consultant Isaac Isaac was there to make a pitch.

Isaac said that in a tropical climate like that of the Philippines, traditional, "open-field" farming entailed great risk of crop loss because of insect attack, plant disease, excess rain or sunshine, and other hard-to-control factors. He also cited the risk in manually administering sensitive doses of fertilizers or pesticides.

Farmers mired in the old ways and who are largely at nature's mercy are more vulnerable to poor yields and slow return of investment (ROI), Isaac said.

But in greenhouse farms, crop cycles are drastically shortened and "we can plant even against the season," said Arce, whose farm in Barangay Paligawan in Pulong-Bunga town was showcased during the tour.

Melons are fine for planting any time of the year and can be picked after six to eight weeks, "whereas in a traditional farm it would take up to four months," she said. And bell peppers are ready just three to four months after planting, or "half the time" old-fashioned farmers have to bear with.

Botanical utopia

A greenhouse aspires to be a botanical utopia equipped specifically for the needs of the plant variety being grown at the moment.

Usually large enough to hold two tennis courts, a basic greenhouse structure consists of a especially manufactured plastic and net covering propped up by rustproof steel frames.

Israeli-designed and -made greenhouses can endure typhoon winds of up to 150 kilometers per hour, according to Isaac.

Inside, crops are grown in long, straight rows and kept vertical on adjustable strings running from the base of the plant to the overhead frames of the structure.

Fans and a complex network of tanks, pipes, valves and sprinklers are employed to control temperature and humidity by the hour, and water and fertilizer or pesticide requirements are supplied in calibrated doses.

Using data programmed by the farm agronomist, a computer synchronizes and "balances" all these nourishing elements from the farm's main "control room."

A typical greenhouse is also engineered to keep out insects or dirt-borne plant diseases.

Toward this end, a trap-door chamber is incorporated in the design. At the doorway, farm personnel or visitors dip the soles of their footwear into a water puddle (which takes over the function of a door mat!) to somehow wash off the dirt that might carry harmful agents.

When an infestation does break out inside a greenhouse, it is given a "rest," as Arce put it—meaning the crops are uprooted and the structure is left empty for a certain period.

All these quality control measures result in produce that are not only of high quality but also "uniformly" sized and flavored, she said.

Not GMOs

Arce was quick to try to dispel certain misconceptions about greenhouse products, especially those held by quarters campaigning against genetically modified organisms.

"These are not GMO fruits," she said. "The reason there's uniformity in their taste and size is that the computer balances all the elements."

But both Isaac and Arce noted that greenhouse farming in the Philippines had so far proven more suited for imported plant varieties, mainly those that could be grown indoors.

Aside from high-value fruits and vegetables, flowers have been successfully propagated on a commercial scale in greenhouses in Cebu, Isaac reported.

He said two Israeli firms—Netafim and Plastro—had been making headway in marketing greenhouse technology among local agri-businessmen.

At the Farm of Galilee, for example, Netafim is supplying the greenhouse structures, the computer, the seedlings and other material requirements, as well as the training of farm personnel, "as part of the whole package."

Just minutes away from Arce's farm is Netafim's training center for its clientele, who, according to the company's general manager Nir Erez, now counts around 40 private farms nationwide.

Erez said the training center would shortly conduct a "demonstration" for officials of the Department of Agrarian Reform, to promote greenhouse farming in the ARCs (or agrarian reform communities) in the countryside.

The firm is offering, for example, a "low-end model" especially designed for ARCs at P300,000 per 560 square meters.

Drip irrigation

Another method being popularized here by the Israelis is the cheaper, less technical drip irrigation system, wherein crops are grown in the open field but are watered through pipes lined up on the ground according to the plots' layout.

Water mixed with fertilizer drips from holes bored strategically along the length of the pipes, gently irrigating the precise spot where a plant has taken root. It flows down from a nearby tank by sheer force of gravity, which is why drip irrigation is best prescribed for farms situated on slanting terrain.

With the DAR's help, the company hopes to market both the greenhouse technology and the drip irrigation system to farming cooperatives, Erez said.

Money matters

But how much will it take to start a greenhouse business here? Isaac said a "basic unit" measuring 1,000 square meters would require an investment of around P1.5 million. The cost already covers the structure itself, computer systems, irrigation and other support services.

Plastro's Filipino agronomist Jorge de la Cruz said that at one client's farm, the cost was about $24 per square meter per crop cycle.

In terms of profit, Isaac said "you cannot compare" the income possible from greenhouse farming with earnings from traditional agriculture.

The hypothetical 1,000-square-meter basic unit can earn for the owner up to P1 million a year, he said, granting a steady market and well-supervised farm operations.

Arce said that with Galilee's 12 greenhouses (including a small nursery) just starting operations in February last year, "we are looking at an ROI after two or three years if we meet market projections."

"The ROI is really more than what you would have if you are doing open farming," she said. "But more than the financial income, it's the thought that you are helping the country in food production."

De la Cruz cited another farm in Cavite that, after a 75-day planting cycle, produced honey dew melons worth P10,600 out of 100 melon plants grown on a plot measuring .6 meter by 24 meters.

"Assuming you already have a market, it's really very profitable," he said.

Asked to assess greenhouse farming's potential in terms of job generation in the agriculture sector, Arce said a farm of Galilee's size would employ 30-35 people.

Isaac said the typical ratio was two workers for one greenhouse structure.

High-end market

As a business strategy, Galilee and other greenhouse farms in the country generally target the high-end market, Arce said.

She said Galilee products had found their way to the shelves of major supermarkets like Rustan's and WalterMart.

She cited feedback from one store saying Galilee peppers were "even more visually appealing than those imported from Australia."

De la Cruz said hotels and fine restaurants also made up the regular bulk buyers of greenhouse produce.

Because of the relative infancy of greenhouse technology in the country, Arce said, "there's not much competition" among the pioneering farms.

"What I really want to do—and I've started talking with other greenhouse owners—is that maybe, in order not to kill each other, we can form an association of some sort," she said.

Farm operators can agree, for example, not to grow the same crops in a given period, or form partnerships to meet foreign demand, thus mutually enhancing each other's export capabilities, Arce said.

Pope names Bicolano papal nuncio

From page A1

A nuncio is a representative to a kingdom, republic, state or independent principality that the Holy See has established diplomatic relations with. He keeps the Pope informed on the conditions of the Church in the country of his assignment.

In most countries like in the Philippines, the nuncio is given the deanship of the diplomatic corps in his country of assignment.

All nuncios have the rank of archbishops.

The Filipino papal nuncio, tasked by the Vatican to carry its mission in the two island-countries in the Asia-Pacific, is the son of couple Adolfo and Salud Yllana from this city. He is among a brood of five.

Yllana belongs to a family of priests. Two of his uncles on his father side were the late Msgr. Florencio C. Yllana and Msgr. Alfredo C. Yllana. His only brother is Fr. Pio Antonio Yllana who serves at the prelature of Libmanan.

The new papal nuncio was ordained to the priesthood on March 19, 1972 after he finished his college and theology at the Naga Holy Rosary Seminary.

He was first assigned as assistant parish priest of the Metropolitan Cathedral in Naga City until 1973. He went on to become a professor in the Minor and College Departments of the Naga Holy Rosary Seminary for six years.

Ph.d in Canon, Civil Law

In 1979, the Bicolano priest went to Rome to pursue post-graduate studies at the Pontifical Lateran University and graduated in 1983 with a doctorate in Canon and Civil Law.

At the same time that he was pursuing his doctorate, Yllana studied for four years at the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, a diplomatic school, and finished his course in 1984.

After his studies, he was assigned in different diplomatic postings, which included an assignment in the Apostolic Nunciature in Ghana, Togo and Benin as an attaché and second secretary from 1984-1987.

Yllana also joined the Vatican diplomatic service in Ghana, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Lebanon and Hungary.

At the time of his appointment as archbishop and papal nuncio to Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, he was serving as head of mission of the Apostolic Nunciature in Taipeh.

The practice of appointing nuncios or church ambassadors to different countries was reconfirmed in the Lateran Treaty between the Holy See under Pope Pius XI and Italy under the dictator Benito Mussolini on Feb. 11, 1929.

The treaty resolved the conflicting claims to the temporal sovereignty of the Papal States that led to the establishment of the Vatican State and its eventual recognition by most of the countries in the world.

Smallest state

The Vatican is the smallest state in the world with an area of only 108 acres, which is said to express the sovereign territory and independence of the Holy See and renounce the political power and "kingly splendor" of the Pope.

In the Pope's tiny territory, independent states acknowledge him as the absolute sovereign of the Holy See.

Under international law, the Vatican acquires "jus legationis," which is the right to send and receive ambassadors.

The international community of nations recognizes this tiny territory as a neutral and inviolable territory.

As of the latest count, the Vatican has 163 diplomatic missions, which include non-Catholic countries and 35 Muslim states.

The United Nations, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, the Russian Federation and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees maintain missions at the Vatican.

SPORTSWATCH

Xavier shines

DEFENDING champion Xavier School banked on the heroics of Tyron Tang and Chris Tiu in the last two minutes to turn back Chiang Kai Shek College, 63-59, Friday for its sixth straight victory in the Tiong Lian basketball tournament at the UNO School gym. Tang knocked in five points while Tiu sank two free throws to erase a 57-56 CKS lead and preserve the Stallions' clean record in the five-team, two-round cagefest. Slotman Sammy Young sparkled for Xavier in the first half to top the scoring with 20 points while Tiu and Tang contributed 17and 16, respectively.

8-ball tilt final

EFREN "Bata" Reyes will strut his wares anew today (Sunday, Feb. 3) when Viva Vintage Sports telecasts the championship of the Accu-Stats Eight-Ball Invitational in Los Angeles at 5:30 p.m. on IBC-13. Reyes will be facing veteran Roger "The Rocket" Griffis of the US, the 1997 winner of the ESPN Ultimate 9-Ball Challenge. Reyes reached the Accu-Stats Finals by defeating 2001 World Pool champion Mika Immonen, 8-6, Johnny Archer, 8-7, Tony Frank, 8-5, and Francisco "Django" Bustamante, 8-5.

Els 3 shots ahead

MELBOURNE— World number five Ernie Els picked up three strokes at the US$1 million Heineken Classic on Saturday to lead Australia's Peter O'Malley by three shots. Els was 14-under-par after 13 holes of the third round at the Australasian Tour event, co-sanctioned by the European Tour. The South African, who was three ahead overnight on 11-under, went out in a one-under 35 on Saturday with three birdies and two bogeys, then picked up an eagle on the par-five 10th hole. *AP*

Perez shows way

PEBBLE BEACH, California—Pat Perez, so sick that he thought about pulling out of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, is starting to feel good about sticking around. With birdies on four, his last five holes on another picturesque day at Pebble Beach, Perez polished off a 7-under-par 65 Friday and quickly built a four-stroke lead over Lee Janzen. It was the largest 36-hole lead at Pebble since 1973, and it could prove to be a valuable cushion for Perez when he plays difficult Spyglass Hill on Saturday. Tiger Woods, thankful to be done with his round at Poppy Hills, found the reception even worse at Spyglass. He bogeyed three out of four holes at one point and finished with a 1-over 73, 12 strokes out of the lead. *AP*

Price dead at 86

CHICAGO—Former Harlem Globetrotter Bernard Price, one of a small number of players honored by the team with Legends status, had died at 86. Price, who died Jan. 24 of kidney failure, joined the Globetrotters in the mid-1930s after team founder Abe Saperstein saw him play a pickup game on a dirt lot in Chicago. *AP*

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BILLIARDS: Accu-Stats Eight-Ball Invitational at 5:30 p.m. on IBC 13

BASKETBALL: The Basketball Show at 2 p.m. on RPN 9

NBA - Portland Trailblazers vs Utah Jazz at 9:10 p.m. on NBN 4

GOLF: PGA AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, Second Round at 6 a.m. (r), Third Round at 2 p.m. on Star Sports

RP TEAMS SCRIMMAGE

Selecta edges Hapee, 69-68

ALTAMIRANO

CAIDIC

By June Navarro

BARANGAY Ginebra coach Allan Caidic will call the shots for RP Team-Selecta, while Eric Altamirano of Purefoods is mentoring RP Team-Hapee when both squads cross paths in the PBA Governors Cup set to start on Feb. 10.

Both teams tested each other's mettle for the first time yesterday with Selecta posting a 69-68 win over Hapee in an intense game using amateur rules.

Asian Games head coach Jong Uichico, however, serves as the monitoring body on the overall progress of the two teams. Uichico said he would assess the performance of both teams with Caidic and Altamirano at the helm.

"They (Caidic and Altamirano) have the hand to preside over the two teams during scrimmages and training sessions while I supervise and monitor the development of both squads," said Uichico after yesterday's match.

"The effort and intensity were there except for the last minute where most of the players reverted to their old habits in the PBA like posting up on isolation and one-on-one plays," added Uichico.

"We were able to see the things the players can do as a team and what they can do individually. At least, we know the things we still have to work on," he added.

Uichico said the coaching staff deliberately ignored statistics in offense but concentrated on rebounds, fouls and turnovers instead.

Fil-foreign cagers Asi Taulava, Eric Menk, Ali Peek, Chris Clay, Rafi Reavis, Chris Jackson and Jeffrey Flowers banner RP Team-Selecta along with Olsen Racela, Patrick Fran, Kenneth Duremdes, Dondon Hontiveros, Chris Calaguio, Edward Juinio, Dennis Espino and Fil-American Jimmy Alapag.

RP Team-Hapee prides itself with brothers Danny and Andy Seigle, Danny Ildefonso, Noy Castillo, Johnny Abarrientos, Boyet Fernandez, Renren Ritualo, Jeffrey Cariaso, Don Camaso, Rudy Hatfield, Mick Pennisi, EJ Feihl, Marlou Aquino, Davonn Harp and Rommel Adducul.

Meanwhile, Rene Hawkins has sought the help of the Commissioner's Office to allow him to see action for the Coca-Cola Tigers despite a pending contract dispute with Federal Express.

The 34-year-old Hawkins happens to be in a stalemate with FedEx on the buyout of his three-year contract, preventing the 9-year PBA veteran to negotiate with the Tigers.

In a letter addressed to the Commissioner's Office, player-agent Danny Espiritu asked the PBA to let Hawkins see action for Coke while the buyout issue is still being ironed out.

At the same time, Espiritu called for the intercession of the PBA to arbitrate the case as both parties failed to come to terms.

Hawkins was asking for a total, buyout of his three-year contract worth almost P14 million but FedEx countered a 50-percent buyout offer good for only one year.

FedEx officials said the 50-percent buyout offer for one year was anchored on the Uniform Player's Contract (UPC) submitted by Tanduay to the Commissioner's Office before transferring its PBA rights to Federal Express-Airfreight 2100 Inc.

PSA Forum

WHAT is in store for fans in the 2002 season of the Philippine Basketball Association? PBA Commissioner Jun Bernardino will provide the answer when he guests in another session of Sports Forum this Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in Manila.

Jones defends 3 boxing crowns vs Aussie today

MIAMI—Roy Jones Jr. can see the end of the road.

The undisputed light heavyweight champion thinks 2003 might be his last year in boxing. He cites his age and injuries and says there's "not many" more big fights left in him.

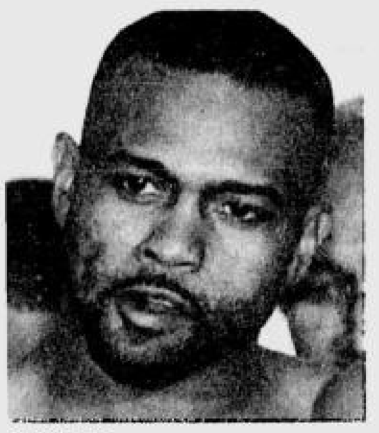
"The challenges are there, although I'm not as hungry as I used to be," the 33-year-old American said this week during his three-week training stint in Miami for his Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila) fight against Australian Glen Kelly. "Your body is a lot different, and injuries start showing up."

Jones rarely has been challenged since he turned pro after the 1988 Olympics. His only loss was on a disqualification in 1997 to Montell Griffin, whom he later knocked out in the first round.

The Pensacola, Florida, native, who has held titles in three weight classes, will carry the WBC, WBA and IBF 175-pound (78.8-kilogram) titles into the match against Kelly, who is fighting for the third time in the United States.

"I fight guys who nobody has beaten yet or have been on rolls, on a winning streak, or they might be at the top of their game," Jones said.

"That's what I want. I know at 40 I'm not going to be able to take on the guys I'm taking on. But when you're pound-for-pound the best, you're supposed to adjust to anything, but you're also supposed to stand out."



JONES JR

KELLY

Jones has had constant struggles with sore hands and he admits the wear of years of punishment are piling up.

Kelly, 28-0-1 with 15 knockouts, is younger, stronger and bigger than the quick, flashy Jones, and says he plans to knock out the champion. Jones, 45-1 with 36 KOs, said his bad hands would be a factor only late in the fight, should it get that far.

Kelly, 30, also believes that Jones' interests outside the ring are a distraction. But for Jones—who once played in a US Basketball League game and won a fight on the same day—his new rap CD and music videos are another chance to expand his interests.

Tyson rape cases

LAS VEGAS—Las Vegas police have recommended that former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson be charged with sexual assault in two cases, a prosecutor said.

Prosecutors and police met for two hours Friday to discuss a September complaint by a Las Vegas woman and a November 2000 allegation from another woman identified by police as being in her 20s and an out-of-state resident. *AP*

Kings still solid at home; Jordan saves Wizards day

WASHINGTON —With the NBA's best home record, the Sacramento Kings have been almost unbeatable at Arco Arena this season.

Their latest effort was as impressive as anything they've treated their fans to this season.

Chris Webber had 29 points and 12 rebounds Friday night as the Kings cruised past the Denver Nuggets 132-96.

The victory was the third in a row and 15th in 16 games for the Kings, who have won 18 straight at Arco Arena and own the league's best home record of 25-1.

"We play well here. That's our goal every night - to get a win like this," Webber said. "We know that bad teams can come in here and make their season by beating us, so we're guarding against that."

In other games, the Los Angeles Lakers defeated Memphis 100-85, Washington downed Atlanta 97-90, Indiana topped New York 92-87, Miami beat San Antonio 88-83, Minnesota edged Boston 98-95 in overtime, Orlando defeated Detroit 85-83, Phoenix beat Golden State 104-98 and Charlotte edged Houston 73-72.

With the Nuggets showing little defensive intensity, the Kings raced out to a 42-31 first quarter lead. Sacramento made its first 10 shots and finished the quarter 15-of-19.

Wizards 97, Hawks 90

At Washington, Michael Jordan had 28 points and eight assists as Washington survived a fourth-quarter rally and handed Atlanta its sixth straight loss.

Jordan shot 10-of-24 from the field and 8-of-10 on free throws in 38 minutes.

Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored 25 points and eight rebounds to lead the Hawks, who have dropped 12 of 13 and had lost their previous five games by an average of 21 points.

Pacers 92, Knicks 87

At Indianapolis, Reggie Miller scored 20 points and Jermaine O'Neal and Jonathan Bender each had 18 as Indiana snapped the Knicks' four-game winning streak.

Jordan shoes for $200

BEAVERTON, Oregon —Air Jordan, the most successful brand of Nike basketball shoes, is taking a vertical leap with a price of $200 a pair.

Packed in a metallic silver briefcase instead of a shoebox, the Air Jordan XVII arrives in stores next weekend, accompanied by a $10 million national advertising campaign with TV spots orchestrated by filmmaker and well-known basketball fan Spike Lee. *AP*

COMPLETE RESULTS

Washington 97, Atlanta 90; Indiana 92, New York 87; Miami 88, San Antonio 83; Minnesota 98, Boston 95, OT; L.A. Lakers 100, Memphis 85; Orlando 85, Detroit 83; Charlotte 73, Houston 72; Phoenix 104, Golden State 98; Sacramento 132, Denver 96. *AP*

SUPER BOWL XXXVI

Patriots eyeing big upset vs Rams

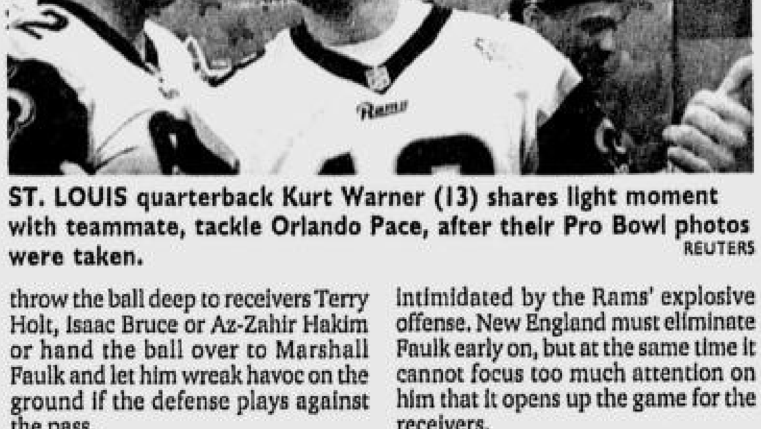
By Lorenzo Manguiat

INVINCIBLE is a severely misused term used in sports. If a team or an athlete is labeled as invincible, then what's the point of playing games anyway?

While the St. Louis Rams are overwhelming 16-point favorites to win Super Bowl XXXVI over the New England Patriots tomorrow, the NFC champions are certainly not invincible.

Unless the Patriots engage themselves in a scoring duel with the Rams, which of course would be suicide, then New England has a fighting chance to pull off the biggest upset since perhaps Joe Namath's New York Jets stunned the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III.

Playing against the Rams' offense, which averaged an NFL best 31.4 points a game, is like picking your poison since they can hurt you in so many ways. MVP quarterback Kurt Warner has the option to either throw the ball deep to receivers Terry Holt, Isaac Bruce or Az-Zahir Hakim or hand the ball over to Marshall Faulk and let him wreak havoc on the ground if the defense plays against the pass.



ST. LOUIS quarterback Kurt Warner (13) shares light moment with teammate, tackle Orlando Pace, after their Pro Bowl photos were taken. REUTERS

However, the Patriots cannot be intimidated by the Rams' explosive offense. New England must eliminate Faulk early on, but at the same time it cannot focus too much attention on him that it opens up the game for the receivers.

The defense must also blitz Warner from time to time as he is not the most mobile of quarterbacks and some members of the Rams' offensive line are suffering from injuries. Likewise, the Patriots' special teams can also be a factor especially if punt returner Troy Brown can find holes and break away for easy touchdowns.

Coach Bill Belichick's decision to stick with Tom Brady instead of Drew Bledsoe as the starting quarterback has created a bit of controversy, but Brady is 13-3 as the starter and his game is much more suited against a team which plays zone like St. Louis.

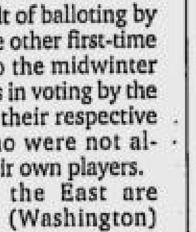
New England can also exploit St. Louis' questionable defense against the run and let Antwoin Smith, a 1,000-yard runner, pound the ball.

The Patriots have not gotten to where they are just on sheer luck alone. They have proven that they can play smart and do the little things it takes to win. If they continue to do so, then they'll finally be able to hoist the Lombardi trophy.

All-Stars mark

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao



A RECORD five players who were born outside the United States were voted to see action in the 51st renewal of the NBA All-Star Game to be held at Philadelphia's First Union Center on Feb. 10 (Feb. 11, Manila time).

They are San Antonio forward Tim Duncan (US Virgin Islands), Dallas guard Steve Nash (South Africa) Sacramento's Predrag Stojakovic (Yugoslavia) and Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki (Germany) of the West All-Stars and Philadelphia center Dikembe Mutombo (Congo) of the East All-Stars.

Of the five, three attended US schools—Duncan (Wake Forest), Nash (Santa Clara) and Mutombo (Georgetown).

Nash was born in Johannesburg, South Africa but grew up in Victoria, British Columbia in Canada and has played for the Canadian national team in international tournaments.

Nash, Stojakovic and Nowitzki are among eight men who will be appearing in their first All-Star Game, the others being Boston's Paul Pierce, Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal and Atlanta's Shareef Abdur-Rahim of the East and Minnesota's Wally Szczerbiak and Houston's Steve Francis of the West.

Francis will start for the West All-Star as a result of balloting by the fans while the other first-time All-Stars got into the midwinter classic as reserves in voting by the head coaches in their respective conferences who were not allowed to pick their own players.

Starters for the East are Michael Jordan (Washington) and Allen Iverson (Philadelphia) at guard, Mutombo at center and Vince Carter (Toronto) and Antoine Walker (Boston) at forward. (Note that Jordan was listed at guard even though he plays forward for the Wizards.) Miami center Alonzo Mourning, Orlando guard Tracy McGrady, Milwaukee guard Ray Allen and New Jersey guard Jason Kidd are the other East substitutes.

Tyson unlikely to get license

LOS ANGELES—Mike Tyson's bid to fight Lennox Lewis in California is officially underway but boxing's governing body for the state warned on Friday that it would not be easy for the embattled American boxer to get a license.

SundaySPORTS
Al S. Mendoza, Editor ■ Edwin M. Villanueva, Assistant Editor

Shark defeats Welcoat, 1 game from PBL crown

GAME TUESDAY
3:30 p.m.—Awarding ceremonies
5:30 p.m.—Shark vs Welcoat

(Best-of-seven) 3-0
Game One—Shark 80 Welcoat 79 (OT)
Game Two—Shark 67 Welcoat 58
Game Three—Shark 61 Welcoat 46

By Dennis U. Eroa

MERCY isn't in the vocabulary of defending champion Shark Energy Drink.

Unforgiving from start to finish, Shark continued to pound Welcoat into submission, scoring yet another resounding 61-46 victory yesterday and moved to within a win of sweeping the PBL Challenge Cup best-of-seven championship.

Unleashing yet another big gun before a roaring crowd at the Makati Coliseum, center Rysal Castro finally shone as he topscored with 16 points, even as rookie Ysmael Junio, Clarence Cole, Ervin Sotto and Warren Ybañez conspired anew to provide Shark the venomous bite needed to tear Welcoat apart.

"I have 10 men who are playing inspired basketball at the moment. It seems we're the hungrier team," said Shark coach Leo Austria, who is eyeing to give Shark its second PBL title.

Austria said Shark is not in the mood to give an inch and will shoot for a sweep in Tuesday's Game Four.

"Welcoat previously swept us twice . It's payback time. The team is reaping the rewards of hard work," said Austria.

Billed the underdog at the start of the series, Shark won Game 1 in overtime, 80-79, before it ripped the game apart on Thursday, 67-58.

Earlier, Kutitap Toothpaste won the battle for third as it edged ICTSI-La Salle, 77-76. Allan Salangsang and Jaymar Rivera hit crucial three-pointers, giving the Sparklers of coach Koy Banal the cushion to repulse the Archers' last-minute comeback.

While Austria was able to squeeze the best from his charges, it was not to be so in the case of Welcoat coach Junel Baculi.

Baculi tried everything to find the winning combination—only to fail amid Austria's hard-defending boys.

Typifying Welcoat's pathetic stand was when pro-bound, 6-foot-9 Yancy de Ocampo got blocked by Clarence Cole, the 6-foot-4 Shark rookie.

And while Welcoat veterans Celino Cruz and Eugene Tan were repeatedly outfoxed by the slippery Ybañez, Paintmaster top gun Ren Ren Ritualo was alternately shackled by Cole and Michael Robinson.

Ritualo, also PBA-bound like De Ocampo, had eight measly points, way below his finals average of 21 points per game.

Jojo Manalo led Welcoat with 13.

So devastating was Shark that Chester Tolomia, the slam-dunking Power Booster, did dunks in wild abandon. In one such dunk, he used his left hand a la Tomahawk.

Welcoat threatened at 49-41, but Junio buried a triple from deep left, Castro escaped with a lay-up and Sotto hit another triple as Shark sped away beyond recall, 57-43, two minutes remaining.

Welcoat seemed destined to win the embarrassing way yesterday.

The usually intense Baculi, obviously agonizing over the Paintmasters fumbling ways, was unusually silent, opting to watch the action and sitting on the bench for the most part of the game.

He fielded De Ocampo for 30 minutes, but the PBA Draft top pick succumbed to Shark's swarming defense. He only had four points.

Baculi also tried to spring a surprise when he fielded enforcer Rene Suba to try and check Ybañez. But Ybañez took the occasion to embarrass Baculi, stealing off Suba's first possession.

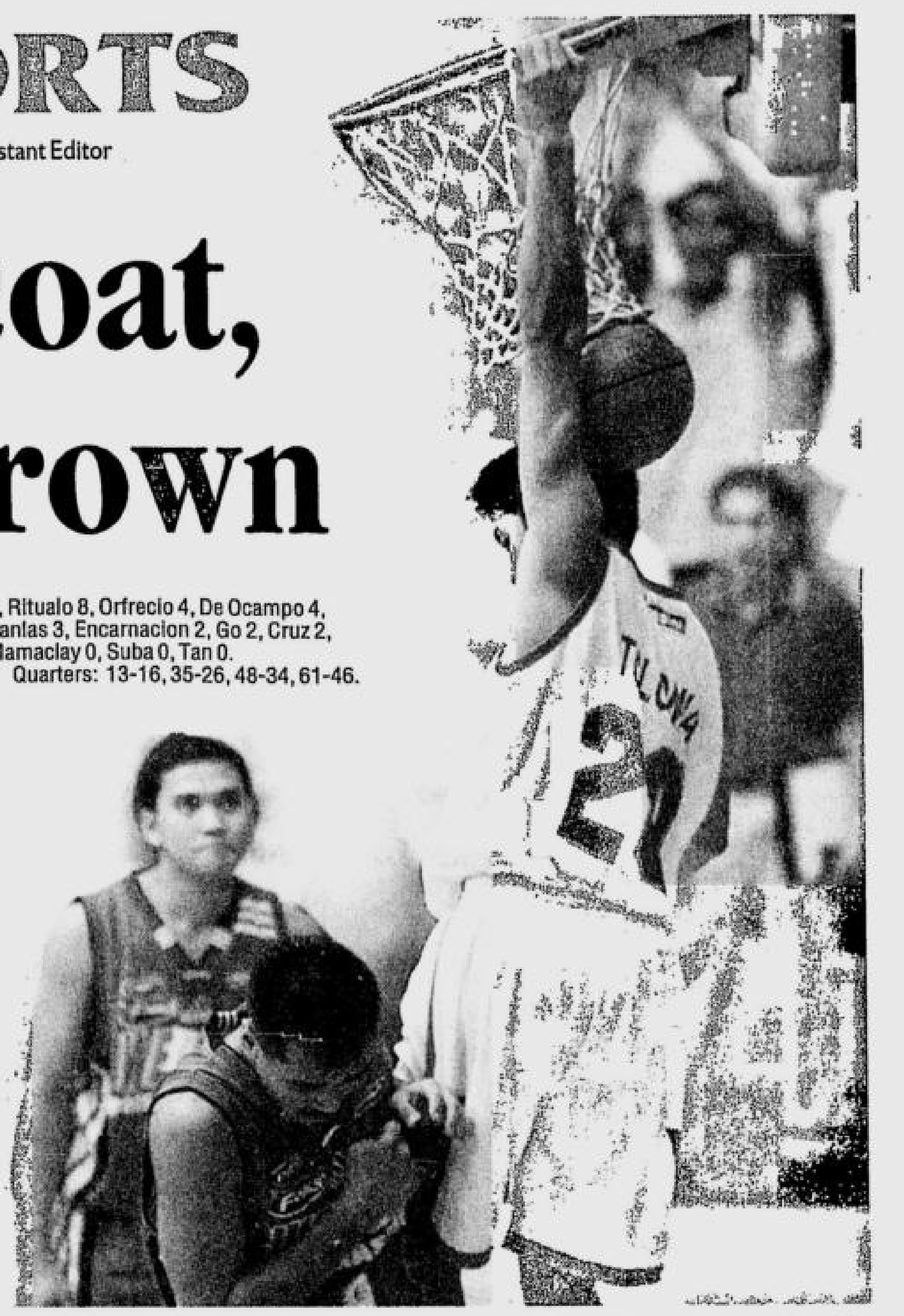
Shark had 19 assists to Welcoat's 7. It had a 40 per cent clip from the field (22 of 55) to Welcoat's gory 29 per cent (20-70).

SCORES:

SHARK 61—Castro 16, Tolomia 14, Ybañez 8, Sotto 8, Junio 5, Cole 4, Ortega 4, Basilides 2, Robinson 0, Balares 0.

WELCOAT 46—Manalo 13, Patrimonio 8, Ritualo 8, Orfrecio 4, De Ocampo 4, Canlas 3, Encarnacion 2, Go 2, Cruz 2, Mamaclay 0, Suba 0, Tan 0.

Quarters: 13-16, 35-26, 48-34, 61-46.



OOPS! Brixter Encarnacion of Welcoat seems to shudder in fear as Chester Tolomia of Shark is set to come down following a spectacular left-handed slam dunk during their PBL championship game yesterday at the Makati Coliseum. Celino Cruz of Welcoat looks on helplessly. Shark won, 61-46, as the Power Boosters made it 3-0 in the best-of-7 Finals. ROMY HOMILLADA

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BIYAHE MO AY SULIT!!!

Why Welcoat's getting the Shark drubbing

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IF you haven't noticed it yet, the roles have been bizarrely reversed. I refer to the ongoing Shark-Welcoat Finals for the PBL Challenge Cup basketball crown at the Makati Coliseum.

In the past, Welcoat had the happy habit of making life unhappy for Shark. Presently, Shark's returning the favor. The Power Boosters of Leo Austria have suddenly become menacingly dangerous, threatening to transform the Paintmasters into masters of none. Shark could yet sink its teeth totally into the league's revenge crust if Welcoat's wheel of misfortune would remain unchanged.

What is this, Welcoat willing to become the weakest link in a title playoff that was ballyhooed as a first-class thriller?

Look. In two of their first three title playoffs, Welcoat blanked Shark, 4-0. The first one came during their first title showdown, when Shark had its 2000 debut in the popular league for the Chairman's Cup in honor of PBL top honcho Dioceldo Sy. It repeated that 4-0 victory when Welcoat retained the Chairman's Cup last year. Those 4-0 debacles were sandwiched by a 4-3 Shark victory in the PBL Challenge Cup. To achieve that, Shark had to rally from a 0-2 deficit.

And now this, Shark leading Welcoat, 3-0, in the best-of-seven Finals.

Shark dominating Welcoat seemed unthinkable. But as eerie as seeing 6-foot-7 Irvin Sotto hitting baskets from afar, not to mention his swatting a shot by the 6-foot-9 Yancy de Ocampo during a championship game at that, the unthinkable is happening: Welcoat's being smothered like a rag doll. And, after absorbing its third straight defeat yesterday, Welcoat appeared ready to close shop; that could happen on Tuesday.

It's embarrassing enough that Welcoat is being treated this way by Shark, with only one of its players (Chester Tolomia) getting invited to a PBA stint against Welcoat's three (De Ocampo, Jojo Manalo and Ren Ren Ritualo). But to me, the biggest blow against Welcoat is not the current 3-0 lead Shark is enjoying right now. It's this: Management's pre-championship announcement that Welcoat would take a leave of absence after the Finals.

Talk about low morale heading into the title playoffs and Welcoat owners gave Welcoat that.

■

My condolences to the wife and children of Ramon Ballesca, who passed away a few days ago in San Francisco, California. Next to Nick Joaquin, Ramon (63) was the only man I've ever seen happiest when a cold bottle of beer was in his hand. Among the world's genuine lovers of beer, Ramon was next only to Nick Joaquin. The first time I had beer with Ramon in 1991 in Augusta, Georgia, while I was covering the US Masters (Ian Woosnam won that one), we hit it off right away. Thanks to Rod Feliciano, the man who bridged my friendship with Ramon, whose wit and humor are matched only by Charlie Chaplin. Hey, Rod, the moments we had with Ramon aboard a boat at the Savannah River—not to mention our lunches and dinners with Dindo Gonzalez and Frankie Miñoza—were memories beyond forgetting. We will miss you, Ramon.

Manila Youth Games set April 7-14

PREPARATIONS for the staging of the 1st Manila Youth Games are now in full swing as the organizing Manila Sports Council started holding a series of strategic talks with the different offices and organizations involved in the event.

Masco chief Ali Atienza, son of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, has been regularly meeting with the various heads of the Division of City Schools, Manila Barangay, Youth, and Tourism Bureaus, City Engineer's Office, City Budget Office, representatives from the Philippine Sports Commission, national sports associations and private events management group.

Among the major concerns discussed were the objectives and mechanics of the MYG, rules and eligibility, mobilization, funding requirements, technical support, facilities and venues and equipment.

"We are very pleased with the enthusiasm and support the various offices and private entities involved have committed for the staging of the 1st Manila Youth Games," the young Atienza said.

"This will certainly serve notice to the commitment of the country's premiere city to the development of grassroots sports," Atienza, the 1994 Asian Taekwondo Championships gold medalist, added.

The 1st Manila Youth Games on April 7-14 is the comprehensive mass-based sports development program for the city's in and out-of-school youths aged 12 years and under.

Spurred on by the success of the City of Manila in the 3rd Philippine National Youth Games-Batang Pinoy, Masco, in its resolve to reestablish the city's culture of sports excellence, decided to push through with the MYG to identify, recruit, train and expose the city's potential youth athletes.

Manila won the 3rd Batang Pinoy overall team championship in Bacolod City last December, garnering 22 gold medals with only 44 children-athletes in its delegation.

Quirimit grabs Le Tour de Langkawi lead

ARNEL Quirimit grabbed the lead among Asian participants after he topped Stage 1 of the individual time trials in the Le Tour de Langkawi yesterday in Putra Jaya, Malaysia.

Quirimit, easily one of the country's top bikers, negotiated the short 20.3-kilometer route with a fast clocking of 26:23.47 that caught the Europeans by surprise and swept Asia's big guns off their feet.

Quirimit's time was more than enough to catapult him to the Asian lead way ahead of 1999 Marlboro Tour champion Wong Kam Po of Hong Kong, Tonton Susanto of Indonesia and Victor Espiritu, the No.1 rider from the Philippine team.

Asian Games gold medalist Gader Mizbani (Iran) of Telekom All-Stars came in 38 seconds later while Japan's top cyclist, Makoto Jijima, was 58 ticks behind.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

- TODAY in 1992, Cassius Casas shot a three-under-par 69 to score a seven-stroke victory over Roger Antonio at the President's Cup in Tarlac. Also today in 1993, Alex Reyes III and Leonardo "Ding" Ramos closed out with 84 points to win the team event of the 4th Bill Shaw Memorial Classic at Wack Wack Golf Club's East and West courses.

LOOK MA, ONE LEG!
Rudy Fernandez, Iloilo's famous triathlete with an artificial leg, splashes himself with water as he runs toward the transition area during the National Triathlon Trials and 3rd Inter-Club Championships in Iloilo on Saturday. Although he did not win, Fernandez won the hearts of many spectators in the event sponsored by Rexona, Toyota, Pagcor and Speedo.

TV for Wind Blown

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

IS Pat Dilema "out" and Dhunoy Raquel "in" again?

This question cropped up after *kareristas* noticed in today's Dividendazo that Raquel, not Dilema, is partnering Wind Blown in the Regally Open Stakes.

Not only that, it's either Raquel or Oyet Alcasid who will be atop most of Hermie Esguerra's horses this weekend.

Is Hermie making some "pahiyang" by allowing Raquel to ride Wind Blown this afternoon?

We all know that Raquel is nothing new to Wind Blown. In fact, before Dilema became Hermie's choice to ride the massive colt regularly, it was Raquel who engineered a couple of victories for the horse early last year.

So it's going to be a reunion of sort for Raquel and Wind Blown in the Regally Stakes, a race honoring the former top import of Tito de Jesus.

With Raquel on top, Wind Blown is expected to hurdle his first assignment for 2002 in a breeze.

* * *

We had a chance to be at Wind Blown's homebase, the Hermie Esguerra Stable, inside the PRCI compound recently and checked out where the 2001 Horse of the Year is "billeted."

Being the stable's No. 1 resident, Wind Blown occupies the most special place which is Stall No. 15.

Besides the usual amenities given to champion horses, the stall is located in front of the stable office where a colored TV set has been installed for Wind Blown's "viewing pleasure."

Hermie said it was set up by stablehands, led by Willy Deleña and Roger Toñacao, "*para daw makapag*-relax *si* Wind Blown."

The Hermie Esguerra Stable, according to Jake Maderazo, is also the envy of many because it has state-of-the art facilities not found in other stables like the sand roll, misting machine and weighing scale.

My *Silip* Boy said he also wants to visit Wind Blown's place and have him photographed besides the champ.

First Gentleman's Cup set Feb. 24

ANGELO

LOCAL racing's first million peso classic horse race comes off the wraps on Feb. 24 at the Santa Ana Park as the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, in cooperation with the Philippine Racing Club Inc., spearhead the staging of the 7th PCSO First Gentleman's Silver Cup.

PCSO General Manager Virgilio R. Angelo announced the holding of the P1.7-million horse racing championship following the close of entry declarations to the said event last Friday at the PCSO Draw and Races Department.

"The running of the PCSO First Gentleman's Silver Cup is part of our commitment to support the local horse racing industry by providing the ideal venue to showcase the improvement of the local breed. It also intends to highlight the significant contribution of horse racing in generating much-needed revenues for the government and additional funding for charities," according to GM Angelo.

The featured race would be officially known as the PCSO First Gentleman's Silver Cup, in honor of First Gentleman Jose Miguel T. Arroyo, who is himself a known horseman. It is a fitting counterpart to the annual PCSO Presidential Gold Cup held last December," explained PCSO Committee on Races chair Jose Malang.

The PCSO, through chair Ma. Livia Honey Girl S. de Leon, has formally invited Arroyo to attend the occasion and award the Silver Cup to the owner of the winning entry.

In addition to the coveted championship trophy, the winner of the PCSO Silver Cup is also guaranteed to receive a purse of P1.1 million, with P350,000.00, P175,000.00 and P85,000.00 allotted respectively to the three other placers.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Worth Ur While 2. Lovely Luigi 3. Brenda Starr 4. Samahan
Race 2—1. Asalto 2. Arresbee 3. American Beauty
Race 3—1. Profitable 2. Lorna
Race 4—1. May's Magic 2. King Aldrin 3. Star Sapphire 4. Nag-iisang Ikaw 5. Currency
Race 5—1. Party Princess 2. Harvesting Game 3. Silent Heat 4. Win More
Race 6—1. Labuyo 2. House Conquest 3. Il Amorosa 4. Empire Girl
Race 7—1. Wind Blown
Race 8—1. Real Material 2. Bullish View 3. Modern Classic 4. Carte Blanche
Race 9—1. Legend of Gaia 2. Sun City 3. Astuce 4. Royal Service 5. Master Ijhay 6. Strawberry Hope
Race 10—1. The Mailman 2. Marginal Note 3. Run Doding Fly 4. Sunflower 5. Knows Love
Race 11—1. Gossip Column 2. Armee's Hope
Race 12—1. Winter's Fury 2. Guts 3. Secret Currency
Race 13—1. Truthful Lady 2. Beautiful Task 3. Perfect Gift/Native Talent 4. Dear Elane 5. Romario 6. Adrenalin

Buhain approves P6-M financial aid to NSAs

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PHILIPPINE Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain kicked off his cash-giving functions last week, approving at least P6 million in financial assistance to different national sports associations.

In his first board meeting since assuming office last week, Buhain said they tried to get rid of the backlog brought by the change of leadership in the agency.

It was also the longest board meeting by far, stretching for two days—Wednesday and Thursday last week—since it also served as briefing for the new PSC boss.

"I'm really starting to get the picture of the agency with that board meeting," said Buhain, who stressed that he got ample support from the four holdover commissioners.

BUHAIN

Buhain added that the board plans to make new policies on giving assistance, particularly to individuals who are neither athletes nor officials.

He said the agency lacked a guideline regarding the rates of allowances given to tournament directors, referees, timers and judges who go abroad.

Still, Buhain said he will start to meet NSA presidents next week and ask them their three-year plan for the next few years," Buhain added.

Already, athletics boss Go Teng Kok talked to him about his plans for the Asian Games.

Track and field athletes, all 27 of them, have already started training in Baguio City early this month and will be needing bigger budget than the P8 million they received last year.

But Buhain refused to commit on the amount although he recognized the successes of the track and field athletes during the last year's Southeast Asian Games where they won nine golds, 10 silvers and four bronzes.

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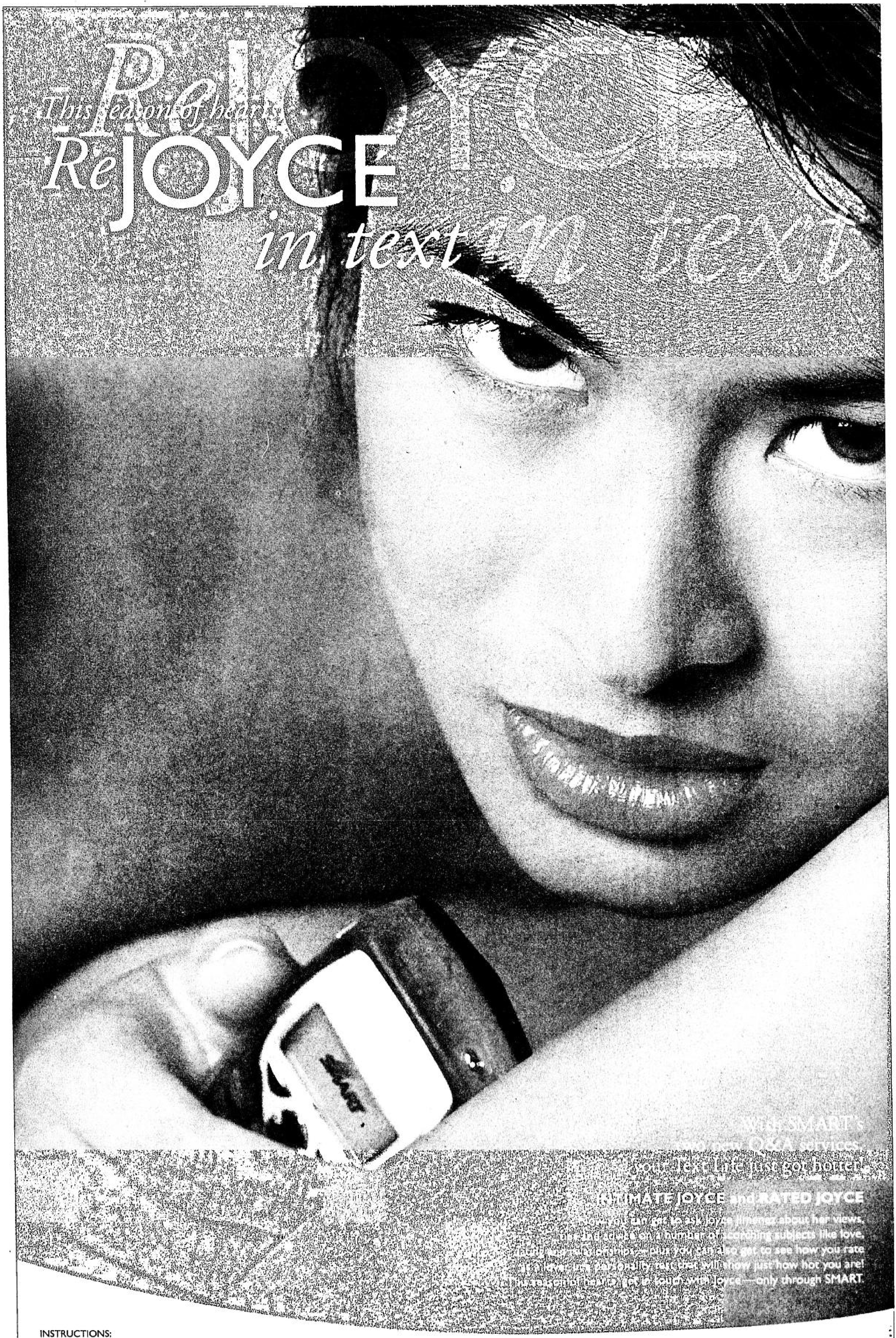

This season of hearts

ReJOYCE in text

With SMART's two new Q&A services, [illegible] your Text Life just got hotter!

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[illegible] you can get to ask Joyce Jimenez about her views, tips and advice on a number of searching subjects like love, [illegible] and relationships—plus you can also get to see how you rate as a lover in a personality test that will show just how hot you are! [illegible] this season of hearts, get in touch with Joyce—only through SMART.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Intimate JOYCE

Lets you ask Joyce her views and/or tips on a variety of topics like: Love, Dating, Sex, etc.

- **To begin**, key in **ASK <topic> M** (for male) or **F** (for female) and send it to **241**

ASK love in

Ex: *Joyce: Love is a choice and a commitment.*

Topics: *Love, Sex, Dating, Relationships (keyword REL) and Health.*

All information requests sent will be charged P2.50 each.

Rated JOYCE

A personality test where you will find out how you rate as a lover in Joyce's eyes.

- **To begin**, key in **QUIZ** and send it to **241**

You will then receive the first of 10 multiple-choice questions.

QUIZ

Ex: *You like to kiss with your eyes:*
A.) open—like to watch B.) closed—afraid to look C.) closed—more romantic

- **To answer**, key in **QUIZ <the letter of your answer>** and send it to **241**

You will then receive the next multiple-choice question. After answering the last question, you will receive a message with your rate as a lover from Joyce.

QUIZ C

Ex: *30 Joyce says: you're a perfect lover!*

PERSONALIZED GREETINGS

SMART
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How to buy cheap PCs without being cheated /A22
Fake Philip Morris seized /A22

METRO

Louie C. Camino, Editor

Alvarez wages war on piracy /A22
Man killed for nearly bumping 2 'cops' /A22

Eco park to rise in garbage dump

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE PARAÑAQUE government has revealed an ambitious plan to convert a site that has become the city's version of Smokey Mountain into a "world-class ecological park."

Smokey Mountain was a steaming tower of trash in Tondo, Manila which the foreign press often used to depict life in the Philippines. The area has since been converted into a housing project for the poor.

Confident that it can solve its garbage problem this month, Parañaque City local government officials on Thursday said they planned to rehabilitate a public cemetery in Barangay San Dionisio, where a mountain of garbage has accumulated since the start of the garbage crisis last year.

The cemetery serves as a transfer station for the city's garbage before the garbage is moved to "secret dumpsites" outside Metro Manila, said Mar Jimenez, city public information officer.

Residents have been complaining that the mountain-sized dump might cause health problems in the area.

But Jimenez on Thursday said it was better to sacrifice one barangay than to allow all of the city's 16 barangays to suffer from the garbage crisis.

Garbage, which used to be contained in a small portion of the property, now occupies a large part of the cemetery.

Jimenez said the local government would soon launch a multimillion-peso project to convert half of the sprawling property into an eco park.

SSS confirms Korina did not remit maid's contributions

By Alcuin Papa

THE SOCIAL Security System branch in Pasig City late last week issued a certification that ABS-CBN newsreader and talk show host Korina Sanchez had indeed neglected to remit to the SSS the contributions of her former maid Bernadita Inocencio.

In a signed certification, SSS section head Charisse Castro said Inocencio was indeed reported for coverage with the SSS effective December 2000.

While Sanchez did pay Inocencio's contributions for the period October to December

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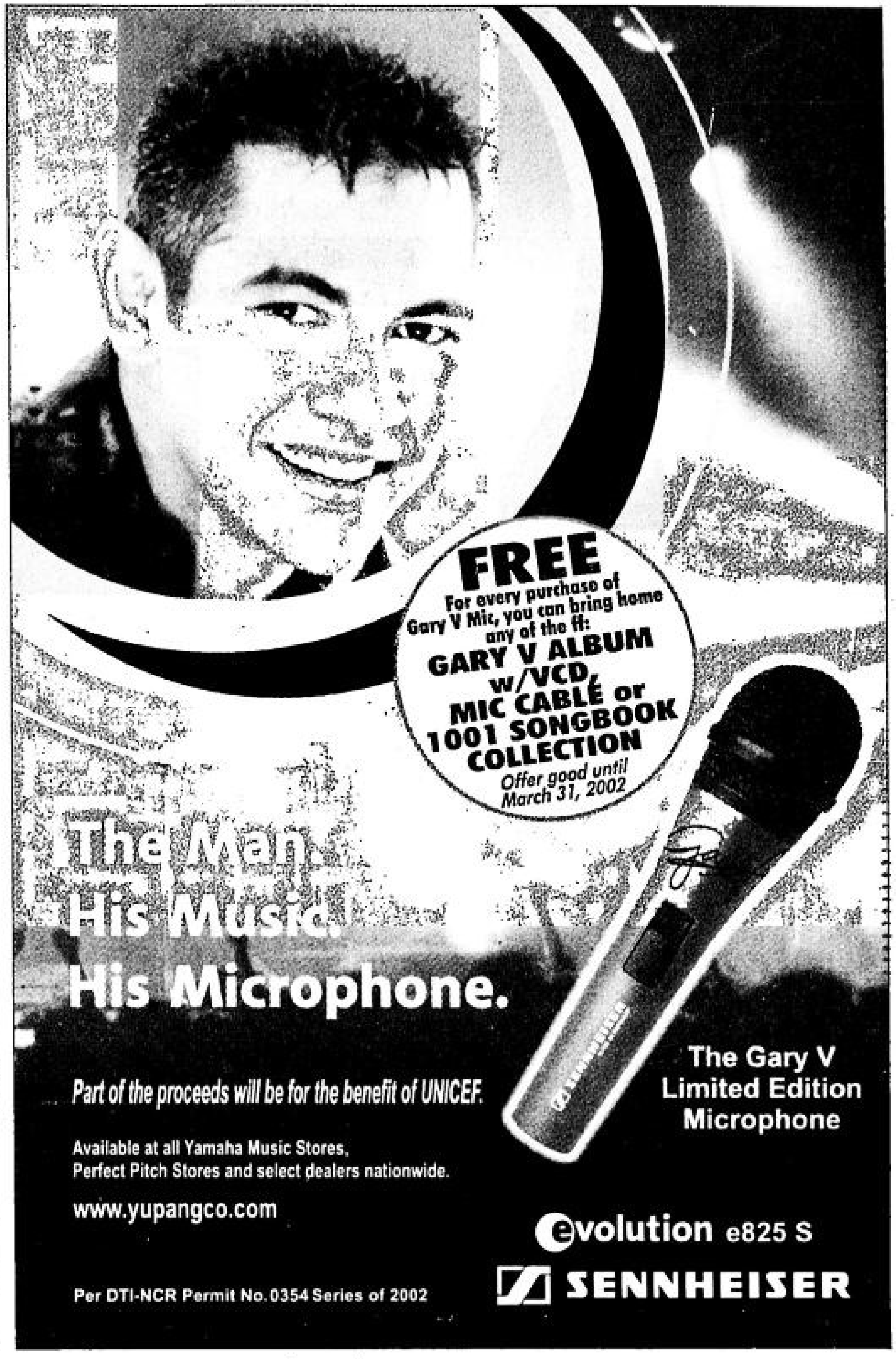
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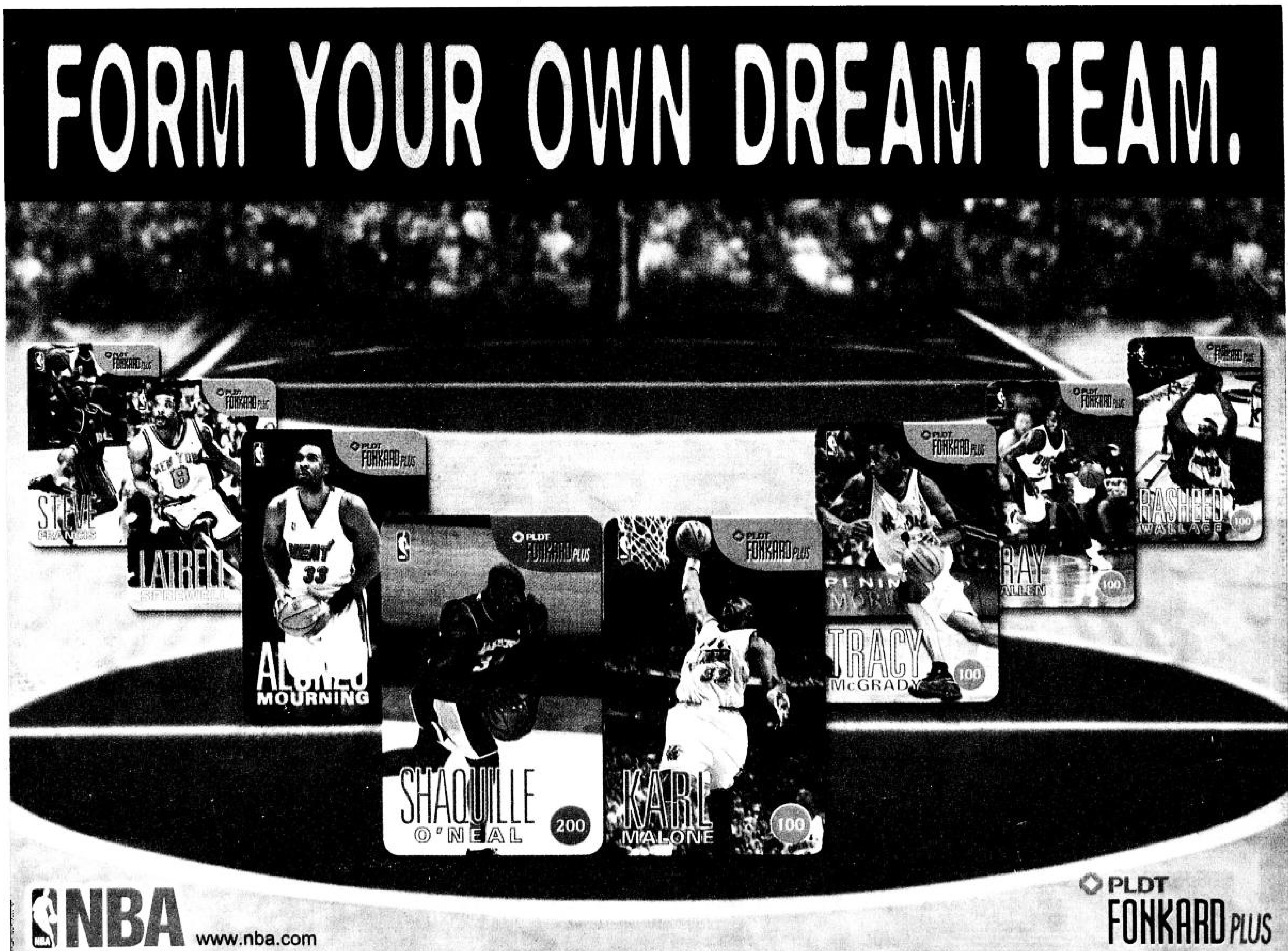
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Drug tests in Manila

TWO Manila councilors have urged Mayor Lito Atienza to order all city government officials and employees as well as barangay officials to undergo drug tests.

Councilors Nelissa Beltran and her brother Natalio Beltran III said in their resolution that the city government should require its officials and personnel to undergo drug testing.

The city council's committee on health, chaired by Councilor Irma Alfonso-Juson, agreed, saying that city and barangay officials and personnel who are not hooked on illegal drugs "would not only ensure their health but also improve their civil service performance."

But the committee said the Office of the Mayor has no authority to issue such an order because the proposal concerns policy, which is the realm of the city council as the local legislative department.

The committee recommended that the Beltrans come up instead with a proposed ordinance granting the mayor the authority to direct local employees to take drug tests.

Jerome Aning

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, February 3, 2002
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Zep 2:3; 3:12-13**

Seek Yahweh, all you poor of the land who fulfill his commands, do justice and are meek, and perhaps you will find refuge on the day Yahweh comes to judge.

I will leave within you a poor and meek people who seek refuge in God. The remnant of Israel will not act unjustly nor will they speak falsely, nor will deceitful words be found in their mouths. They will eat and rest with none to threaten them.

2nd Reading: **1 Cor 1:26-31**

Brothers and sisters, look and see whom God has called. Few among you can be said to be cultured or wealthy, and few belong to noble families. Yet God has chosen what the world considers foolish, to shame the wise; he has chosen what the world considers weak to shame the strong. God has chosen common and unimportant people, making use of what is nothing to nullify the things that are, so that *no mortal may boast before God.* But, by God's grace you are in Christ Jesus, who has become our wisdom from God, and who makes us just and holy and free. Scripture says: *Let the one who boasts boast of the Lord.*

Gospel: **Mt 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain. He sat down and his disciples gathered around him. Then he spoke and began to teach them:

Fortunate are those who have the spirit of the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Fortunate are those who mourn, they shall be comforted.

Fortunate are the gentle, they shall possess the land.

Fortunate are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied.

Fortunate are the merciful, for they shall find mercy.

Fortunate are those with a pure heart, for they shall see God.

Fortunate are those who work for peace, they shall be called children of God.

Fortunate are those who are persecuted for the cause of justice, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Fortunate are you, when people insult you and persecute you and speak all kinds of evil against you because you are my followers. Be glad and joyful, for a great reward is kept for you in God. This is how this people persecuted the prophets who lived before you.

Commentary

Read again the Gospel reading of today and you will surely disagree with what Jesus declares as fortunate. How can the poor be fortunate? Fortunate are those who are rich and happy! Is power not might?

But think of it this way: when the fullness of God's Kingdom comes, those who have not will surely be given more, those who are oppressed will see the liberating power of God. And those who have been enjoying their lot in this world will find that they have no more share in the Kingdom...

Now, read the Gospel passage again, but this time, listen attentively to that little voice in your heart. Though what Jesus says run contrary to how we see things in our present world, our inner heart agrees with him and delights in his words.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missiona-ries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES)—Insanity—Insanity exists when there is a complete deprivation of intelligence in committing the act. Mere abnormality of the mental faculties will not exclude imputability. The accused must be so insane as to be incapable of entertaining a criminal intent. He must be deprived of reason and act without least discernment because there is a complete absence of the power to discern or a total deprivation of freedom of the will. In determining a defendant's competency to stand trial, the test is whether he has the capacity to comprehend his position, to understand the nature and object of the proceedings against him, to conduct his defense in a rational manner, and to cooperate, communicate with, and assist his counsel to the end that any available defense may be interposed. [Citations omitted.] [*En Banc*, Justice Ynares-Santiago, People v. Talavera, G.R. No. 139967, July 19, 2001]

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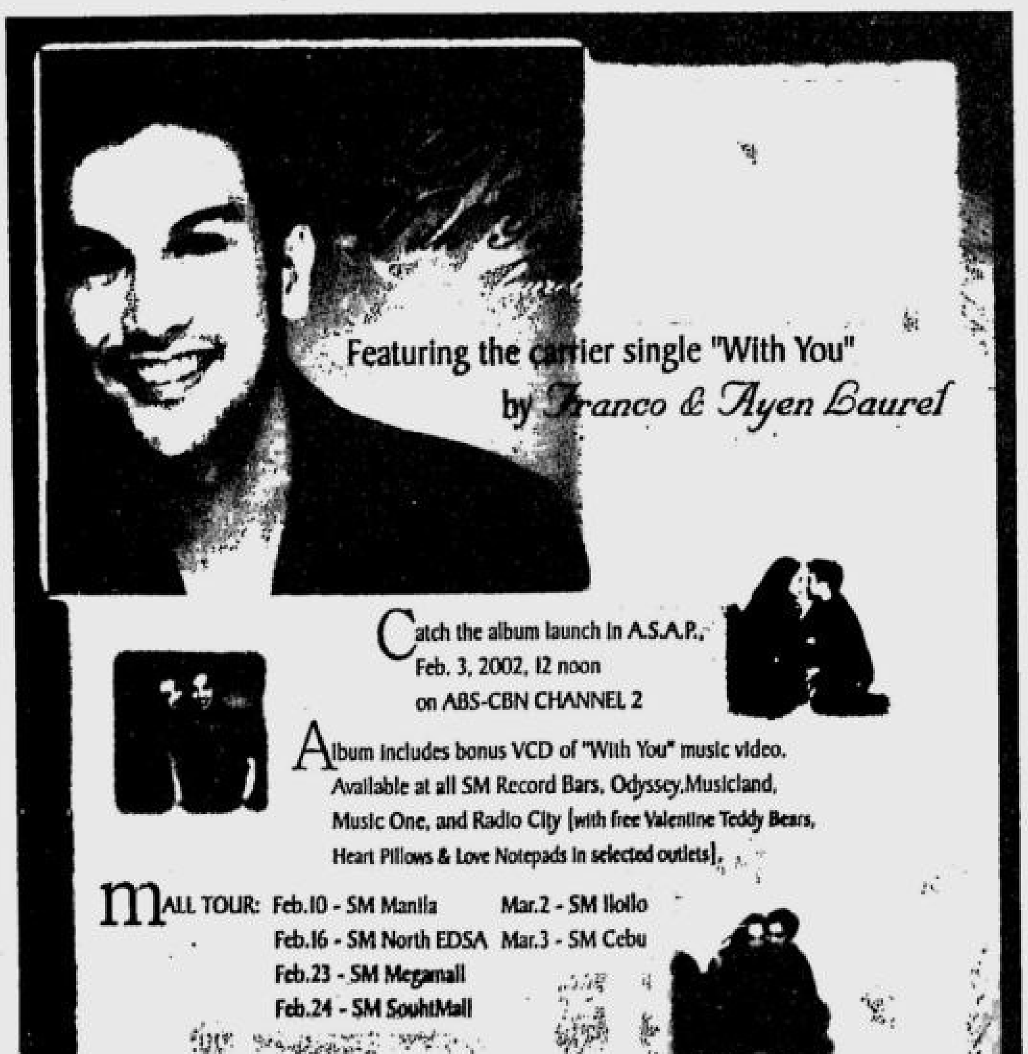

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SHOPPING FOR DUMMIES

How to buy cheap PCs without being cheated

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez
Contributor

IN THIS high-tech age, even Juan de la Cruz dreams of having a personal computer of his own at home. But with the economy so depressed, how can ordinary wage earners like him own a PC?

Thanks to innovative entrepreneurs, even ordinary Filipino households can now actually have their dream PC at affordable prices. However, with shops selling cheap computers mushrooming all over the metropolis in the past two years, would-be buyers need to be discriminating to be sure they get their money's worth.

The Inquirer gathered some tips on how to buy good but inexpensive computers without getting duped.

Before scouting around for that PC, decide what you need it for. Is it merely for personal and basic communication purposes like making reports, writing letters and surfing the 'Net once in a while? Or do you need it to publish your organization's newsletter complete with colored photos and use it for Internet gaming? And would you like it to have MP3 capability?

Browsing through computer magazines or simply asking friends who know about computers may help in giving you an idea on what you exactly need.

All over Metro Manila, there are probably a thousand computer shops selling surplus or slightly used computers from abroad, assembled and even branded ones. Looking in the advertisement pages of your favorite newspapers or, again, asking around will give you an idea where you can find PCs that suit your needs and budget.

You can also find such shops in the malls, so the next time you go malling, check these out so you'll get an idea on how much computers cost and what are the capabilities of those within your budget. Ask the sales people for the PC specifications, but be sure not to get trapped by the sweet-talking ones.

Lessons

Do a survey first before finally letting go of your hard-earned bucks. For surplus computers, prices range from a low of P3,500 to a high of P15,000. The cheaper ones, though, do not yet have a CD-Rom drive so you cannot listen to your favorite music while doing those reports.

A friend who bought a computer for P10,000 from a surplus shop in Mandaluyong City swears her PC is as good as new and has never bogged down since she got it five months ago.

On the other hand, this computer-illiterate journalist was only cajoled into buying recently an assembled PC from a friend of a friend.

Lesson learned: Never be too trusting even if your sales agent happens to be the best friend of your best friend.

Better than branded

Assembled computers, more often than not, run better than surplus ones. They are new and have better capabilities. Some shops make really good computers, ones that are really comparable to branded ones but at half the price.

When you buy an assembled computer, it usually takes one to three days before you can bring it home. The shop will either ask for your budget and, based on it, work on the specifications, or ask you what specifications you want and quote you the price.

The price of assembled computers ranges from a low of P20,000 for an ordinary PC with a CD-Rom drive, to a high of P50,000 for heavy-duty use.

Most shops give a warranty of one year for the maintenance and three years for the hard disk and motherboard.

If your cash is not enough to buy that dream computer and your credit card limit is not high enough, try the shops that offer terms.

Bring a friend

If you are computer-illiterate like yours truly used to be, it is always wise to bring someone who knows about computers. Let him or her check the specifications and whether or not you will get your money's worth.

Never hesitate to ask questions, even questions that may sound silly to computer pros. After all, you are not letting go of only a few cents.

Before you leave the shop, or if the computer is delivered to you, insist to have the CPU (central processing unit) opened and check whether the specifications are correct.

For instance, if the specifications of the computer are 128 kilobytes RAM and 20 gigabytes hard disk, then its internal parts should show such. Also, check the warranty dates indicated on major parts like the motherboard and the hard disk. This way, you will know whether the parts are really new and not recycled.

Then, ask that you test-run the computer in the presence of the computer shop representative. Make sure to check the system information and if it is consistent with the computer's specifications.

Lastly, never forget to ask for a receipt. Again, even if the sales person is someone you know, whether a relative, a friend, or a friend's friend, always ask for a receipt. In business ethics, it's a sin not to issue receipts.

A receipt is a legal proof you can show just in case problems arise, and it also assures you that the shop is paying taxes for the goods you buy.

Sarah Joaquin, 94

SARAH K. Joaquin, teacher, drama director and stage actress, died last Jan. 30 in Falls Church, Virginia. She was 94.

Joaquin taught English, Spanish, voice and diction, and drama at the Far Eastern University for decades. She was drama director at the university and director of numerous award-winning plays.

She was a founding member of the Barangay Theater Guild and a member of the Manila Theater Guild, a group that specialized in staging Spanish and Greek plays. She was a member of the original cast of Nick Joaquin's "Portrait of the Artist as a Filipino."

She has appeared in a number of films, including the screen version of "Portrait."

Upon retirement, she immigrated to the US in 1977 and settled in Falls Church with her daughter Josefina. She wrote essays regularly for the community newspaper, The Manila Mail, directed plays and conducted clinics for drama students.

A former Fullbright scholar, she studied drama at the Catholic University in Washington, DC.

Nick Joaquin, a brother-in-law, says of Sarah: "When I think of Sarah, I see dynamos. Physically, intellectually, spiritually, she's a dynamo. And I speak from a knowledge of her dating back to my childhood. I'm happy to hear she's still effervescing."

Sarah was married to the late Porfirio Joaquin, jazz pianist and Manila's vaudeville king of jazz. She is survived by children Antonio, Lourdes, Josefina and Jose Luis.

Her body will be cremated today and the remains will be brought to Manila this week.

ALVAREZ

Alvarez wages war on piracy

THE Philippine entertainment industry has found a new ally in Transportation and Communications Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez.

Alverez said in a news conference last Friday that his department would coordinate with the Video Regulatory Board so that all sea and air ports would be manned by authorities watching out for unscrupulous people who are transporting pirated CDs and video cassettes to different parts of the country.

"We are going to immediately confiscate their goods and turn them over to the VRB," Alvarez said.

He said he would also issue a memorandum ordering all employees of the 19 DOTC agencies not to patronize the illegal goods.

He said that since all regional DOTC offices already have people tasked to inspect goods in every air and sea port in the country, he would simply "give them additional instructions to watch out for sellers of pirated CDs and cassettes."

Philippine movie and recording companies have been losing billions because of the much cheaper pirated CDs and cassettes. Industry leaders and entertainers have been seeking the support of legislators and other government officials.

Marinel R. Cruz

Trader's slay definitely drug-related, police say

By Philip C. Tubeza

ILLEGAL drug activities definitely had something to do with the killing of Chinese-Filipino businessman David Sy-Lato Wednesday afternoon in Binondo, Manila, police said Friday.

"Definitely, drugs had something to do with it," an investigator said of the murder of Sy-Lato, relative of the late Sy Pio Lato, the controversial trader linked to former Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim.

But the source declined to give more details about the drug angle, saying it might jeopardize the investigation.

The investigator said there was a report that National Bureau of Investigation agents on Friday had arrested a suspect in the killing, but the NBI denied it.

According to the report, the suspect was nabbed in Cavite on board a motorcycle which was allegedly used by some of the suspects in their escape. The bureau joined the inquiry into Sy-Lato's death because the victim was an NBI confidential agent.

Sy-Lato, 35, of Elcano Street, Binondo, Manila, was ambushed outside his home Wednesday afternoon.

But the victim was able to fire back at his assailants and hit suspect Decoroso Pamesa, 36, a former Army man, of Upper Bicutan, Metro Manila.

Initial police reports said there were three assailants, but the source said that according to their investigation, eight other men, besides Pamesa, might have taken part in the attack.

Police are also looking into reports that Sy-Lato opened fire first on the culprits, as Pamesa claimed.

Earlier, witnesses said the victim was shot after he went out of his residence to go to a nearby bank about 2 p.m. Wednesday.

One of the suspects called out his name. When the victim turned to see who was calling him, the gunmen opened fire. Sy-Lato fired back as he fell and hit Pamesa.

Pamesa is now in police custody at the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center. The NBI and police are closely guarding him after he and his family allegedly received death threats.

Man killed for nearly bumping 2 'policemen'

By Jerome Aning

POLICE are looking for two alleged policemen who reportedly killed a 27-year-old jeepney driver in Sampaloc, Manila Friday night.

Bernardo Duman of Legarda Street was shot twice when he allegedly tried to attack the two men with a metal pipe, investigator SPO1 Diomedes Labarda said.

The two men were standing on Legarda Street waiting for a ride about 7 p.m. when Duman's passing jeepney (TGV-416) nearly hit them, police said. The driver and the two men then traded curses, which only enraged Duman.

Witnesses said they saw the driver get off the vehicle armed with a metal pipe. But one of the two men shot him with a .45-caliber pistol, hitting him in the chest and face and killing him on the spot.

SSS confirms Korina . . .

(From page A21)

2001-the time Inocencio was employed by Sanchez-the payment was made on Jan. 3, 2002.

Mel "Batas" Mauricio, Inocencio's lawyer, said Sanchez only paid the contributions after they filed a case against the ABS-CBN broadcaster for violation of RA 1161, or the Social Security Law.

"The payment does not have any value anymore since the crime of non-remittance has already been committed," Mauricio said.

Inocencio filed her case against Sanchez before a Pasig court in December. Sanchez is facing up to six years in prison if found guilty.

But lawyer Salvador Panelo, who represents Sanchez in the case, said the Pasig City fiscal's office has no jurisdiction over Inocencio's complaint.

"Regardless of whether or not Korina paid, the complaint filed has no basis because the city fiscal's office has no jurisdiction over it," Panelo said. "The SSS should have instigated the complaint."

Panelo added that according to SSS rules and regulations, in case of late payments, "the SSS should first assess you, then give you time to pay."

"If payment is not made, then a formal complaint is filed before the fiscal's office," Panelo said. "If you want to pay, you can do so with penalties. But there should be due process."

Pasig City prosecutor Gabriel Alberto has already ordered Sanchez to answer within 10 days another case Inocencio filed against her for non-payment of the maid's salaries amounting to some P6,000.

Mauricio said Sanchez violated PD 442 or the Labor Code for non-payment of the maid's salaries for one month and 21 days.

Sanchez may spend another three years in jail if found guilty in this case.

Inocencio also filed charges of physical injuries, grave threats and grave coercion against Sanchez before a Makati court.

Inocencio accused Sanchez and her erstwhile boyfriend Paul O. Aquino of beating her up and physically throwing her out of their Makati condo unit a few days before Christmas 2001.

Sanchez denied the charges and filed her own countercharges of qualified theft against Inocencio for the loss of an expensive bracelet.

MTRCB RATING **PG-13**

Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

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5 GOLD (DOLBY)	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
6 GOLD (SDDS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
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5	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

METROPOLIS star
Tel. 850 4285

1	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
2	HEART IN ATLANTIC
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7512010 to 13

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(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

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FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
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Spring
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1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
A	ISANG PANAGINIP

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8583

1 (DOLBY)	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	FINAL ANSWER
5	HEART IN ATLANTIS
6	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
7 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8 (SDDS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
9 (DOLBY)	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	ISANG PANAGINIP

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	FINAL ANSWER
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
4 (SDDS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
6 (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7 (DTS)	ISANG PANAGINIP
8	BUKO PANDAN
9	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

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1 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	ISANG PANAGINIP
5 (SDDS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
6	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
7 (DOLBY)	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
8	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Ortigas
tel 656.5795

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3 (DTS)	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
4	FINAL ANSWER
5 (SDDS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN

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Dilson	HUBO
Lords	TALK DIRTY TO ME
Jennet	RESERVE

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1	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Prima
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3	ISANG PANAGINIP

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	HEART IN ATLANTIC
4	ISANG PANAGINIP
5	FINAL ANSWER

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	FINAL ANSWER

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
2	ISANG PANAGINIP

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna) tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3 (DTS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2 (DTS)	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3 (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	FINAL ANSWER

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	FINAL ANSWER
2 (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3 (DTS)	ISANG PANAGINIP
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MovieTown
TEL. (045) 9821729 (Tarlac)

1	THE OTHERS
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3 (DOLBY)	ISANG PANAGINIP
4 (DTS)	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	FINAL ANSWER
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
4 (DTS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3 (DTS)	THE OTHERS
4	ISANG PANAGINIP
5	FINAL ANSWER

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Olivarez Tagaytay
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1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	FINAL ANSWER
3	BURLESK KING

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	THE OTHERS
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	ISANG PANAGINIP
2 (DTS)	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	FINAL ANSWER

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	BUKO PANDAN
2	ON THE LINE
3	ISANG PANAGINIP
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
3	ISANG PANAGINIP
4 (DTS ES)	FINAL ANSWER

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

GMG INTERNATIONAL

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http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA
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THX

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	HEART IN ATLANTIS
7	LORD OF THE RINGS
8	FINAL ANSWER
9	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
10	THE OTHERS

ERMITA
536-7009 TO 12

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	HEART IN ATLANTIS
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	ISANG PANAGINIP
5	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
6	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
7	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

METRO EAST
632-0115-16 / 633-7641

1	HEART IN ATLANTIS
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN THE OTHERS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN LORD OF THE RINGS
4	ISANG PANAGINIP MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
5	FINAL ANSWER

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	HEART IN ATLANTIS
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
7	FINAL ANSWER
8	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

IMUS
(046) 471-8186

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	HEART IN ATLANTIS
3	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
4	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
5	FINAL ANSWER
6	ISANG PANAGINIP

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0459 / 0459

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3	ZOOLANDER
4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5	IRON LADIES
6	WALANG IWANAN

ILOILO
(033) 336-8077 / 8079

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	LORD OF THE RINGS
4	BURLESK KING
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	KUNG IKAW AY 1 PANAGINIP
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SISID / TAILS OF EROTIKA
ODEON	BLACK HAWK DOWN
ODEON-2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
ROBEN	KUNG IKAW AY ISANG PANAGINIP
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	DON'T SAY A WORD / GHOST FROM MARS
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
REMAR	BLACK HAWK DOWN
REMAR-2	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	KUNG IKAW AY ISANG PANAGINIP
B	BLACK HAWK DOWN
C	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-61 TO 70
CINEMA-1	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
CINEMA-2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BUKO PANDAN
CINEMA-2	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
CINEMA-3	KUNG IKAW AY 1 PANAGINIP
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-6	THE OTHERS
CINEMA-7	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-8	AMERICAN ADOBO
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	BLACK HAWKDOWN
CINEMA-12	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
CINEMA-14	KUNG IKAW AY 1 PANAGINIP
CINEMA-15	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CINEMA-2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
CINEMA-3	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
CINEMA-4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CINEMA-5	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
CINEMA-6	BLACK HAWK DOWN
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	FINAL ANSWER
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
5	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
6	ISANG PANAGINIP
7	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
8	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

SM CENTERPOINT
7149322 -7161418

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	THE OTHERS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
5	BLACK HAWK DOWN
6	FINAL ANSWER
7	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
8	BLACK HAWK DOWN
9	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
10	AMERICAN ADOBO

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	LORD OF THE RINGS
2	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3	THE OTHERS
4	BLACK HAWK DOWN
5	FINAL ANSWER
6	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
7	BLACK HAWK DOWN
8	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
9	ISANG PANAGINIP
10	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
11	AMERICAN ADOBO
12	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	BLACK HAWK DOWN
5	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
6	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7	THE OTHERS
8	AMERICAN ADOBO
9	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
10	LORD OF THE RINGS
11	FINAL ANSWER
12	ISANG PANAGINIP

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BLACK HAWKDOWN
4	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
7	THE OTHERS
8	AMERICAN ADOBO
9	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
10	ISANG PANAGINIP
11	FINAL ANSWER
12	LORD OF THE RINGS

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	ISANG PANAGINIP
5	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
6	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
7	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8	BLACK HAWK DOWN
9	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
10	LOR OF THE RINGS
11	THE OTHERS
12	BLACK HAWK DOWN

SM SOUTHMALL
8000088 • 8008702

1	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
2	THE OTHERS
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
5	AMERICAN ADOBO
6	LORD OF THE RINGS
7	ISANG PANAGINIP
8	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
9	FINAL ANSWER
10	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	LORD OF THE RINGS
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	ZOOLANDER
4	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	BUKO PANDAN
7	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
8	BLACK HAWK DOWN

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	BUKO PANDAN
2	CLOSED
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	ISANG PANAGINIP
6	LORD OF THE RINGS
7	CLOSED
8	BURLESK KING

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7120015

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	SUMMER CATCH
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	FINAL ANSWER
5	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
6	ISANG PANAGINIP

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8820005

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

SM CITY TUTUBAN
2514302

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	FINAL ANSWER
4	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA

SM CITY DAVAO
2974004

1	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2	ISANG PANAGINIP
3	LORD OF THE RINGS
4	LORD OF THE RINGS
5	AMERICAN AOBO
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

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SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

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1
2

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2 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

6380761-85

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Cesar Montano's finest hour

SOME PEOPLE believe that **Cesar Montano**'s best performance was his depiction of the title role in "Jose Rizal." Others think his performance in his latest film, "Bagong Buwan," has surpassed even that sterling portrayal.

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

To our mind, however, Cesar's finest hour as a TV-film talent is his role as narrator in the full-length documentary, "Lakas Sambayanan," which will be shown on TV later this month as a highlight of the country's celebration of People Power.

Cesar does well as the documentary's narrator, his involvement and commitment evident in his vocal delivery and demeanor. But, even more impressive than his work as narrator is the fact that he helped make the significant documentary feasible because he generously donated his huge talent fee to the production.

We've known other major stars who have participated in non-commercial projects like this, but most of them lowered their fees or accepted a modest honorarium. Those generous acts already delighted the show's producers no end.

But Cesar's gesture is truly exceptional and admirable because he opted to be completely generous by not asking for anything at all in recompense for his hard work and star value in connection with the taping and airing of "Lakas Sambayanan."

Truth to tell, what Cesar has done goes beyond monetary considerations. It has inspired the producers of the documentary because it shows that, even in show business, there are some stars who believe in the importance of People Power so much that they are happy to donate their services completely to the furtherance of that vital cause.

Cesar's generous act will go a long way in correcting people's negative impressions of show biz denizens as materialistic and irresponsible egotists. Even better, it could inspire other stars to be similarly selfless in using their talent and popularity to boost the public's understanding of important issues.

Of course, some people will say that Cesar is earning so much from his flourishing stellar career that he can "afford' to be generous. But there are other stars who make even more money than Cesar who haven't done what he has, so his example remains a sterling beacon for others to emulate.

We should all join the documentary's producer, the Foundation for Worldwide People Power, in thanking Cesar for his magnificent generosity and involvement. Best of all, let's all make it a point to view "Lakas Sambayanan" when it is telecast later this month, to truly appreciate Cesar and the perceptive documentary during their finest hour.

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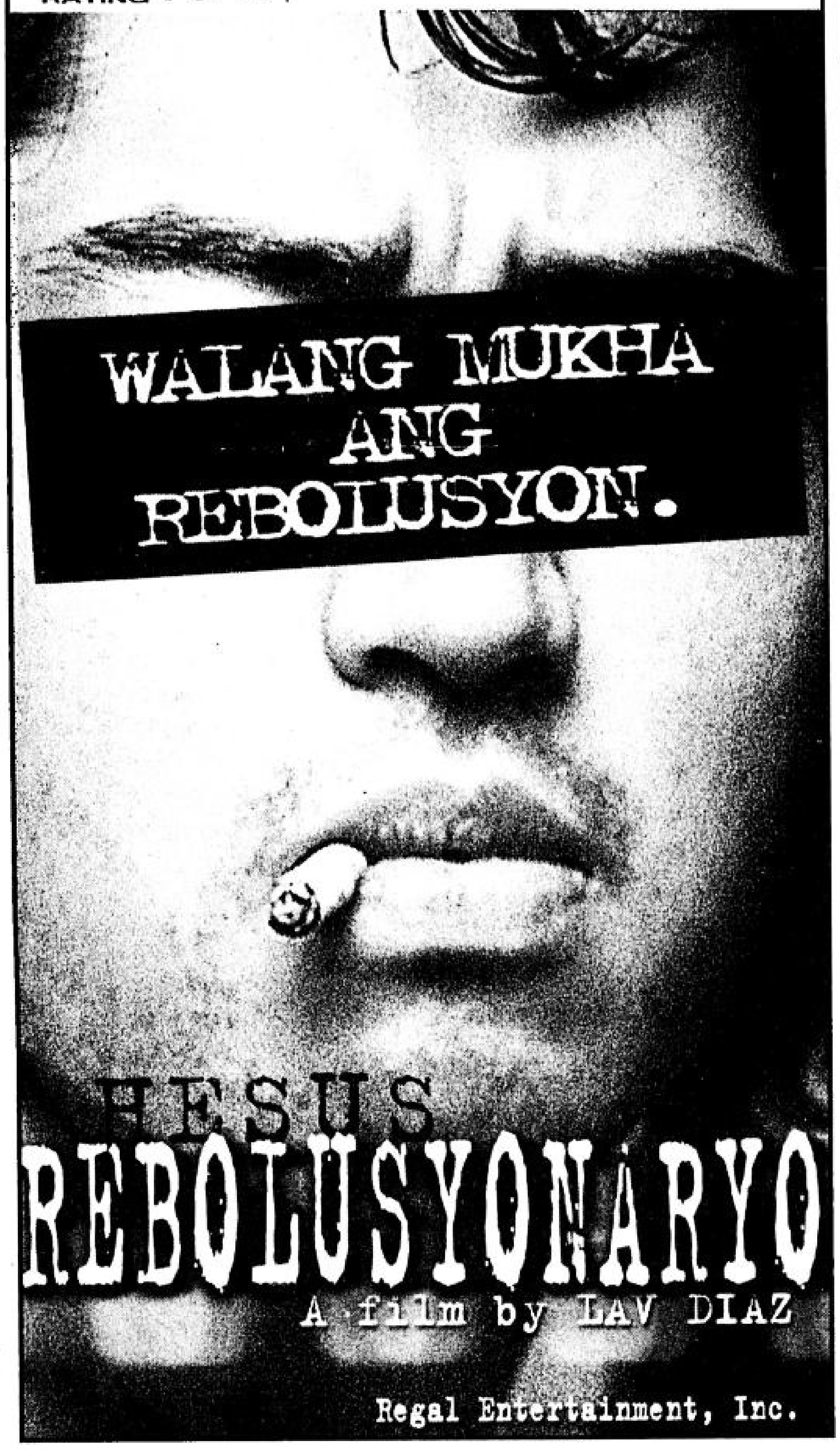
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HESUS REBOLUSYONARYO
A film by LAV DIAZ
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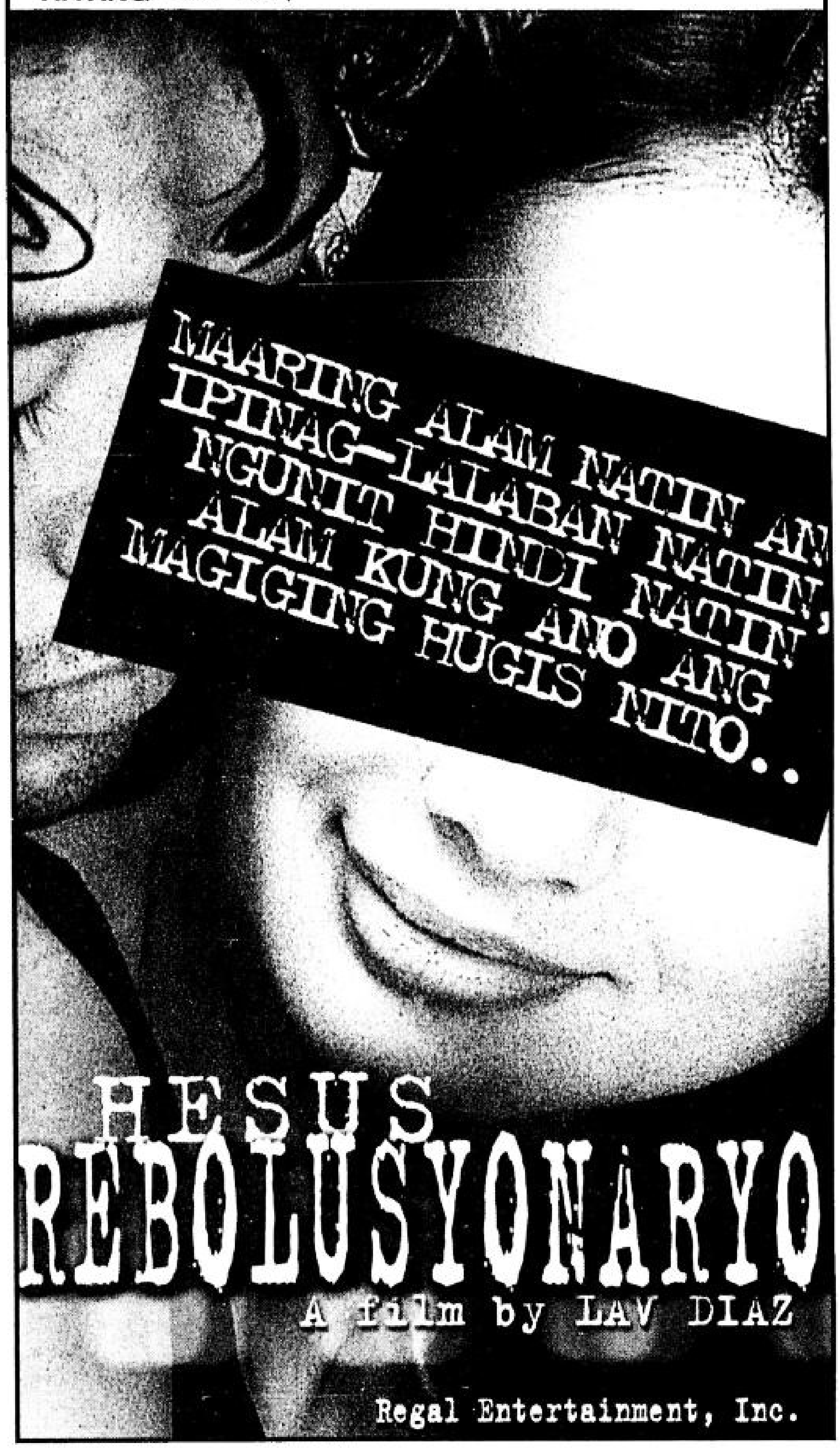
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IPINAG-LALABAN NATIN,
NGUNIT HINDI NATIN
ALAM KUNG ANO ANG
MAGIGING HUGIS NITO..
HESUS REBOLUSYONARYO
A film by LAV DIAZ
Regal Entertainment, Inc.

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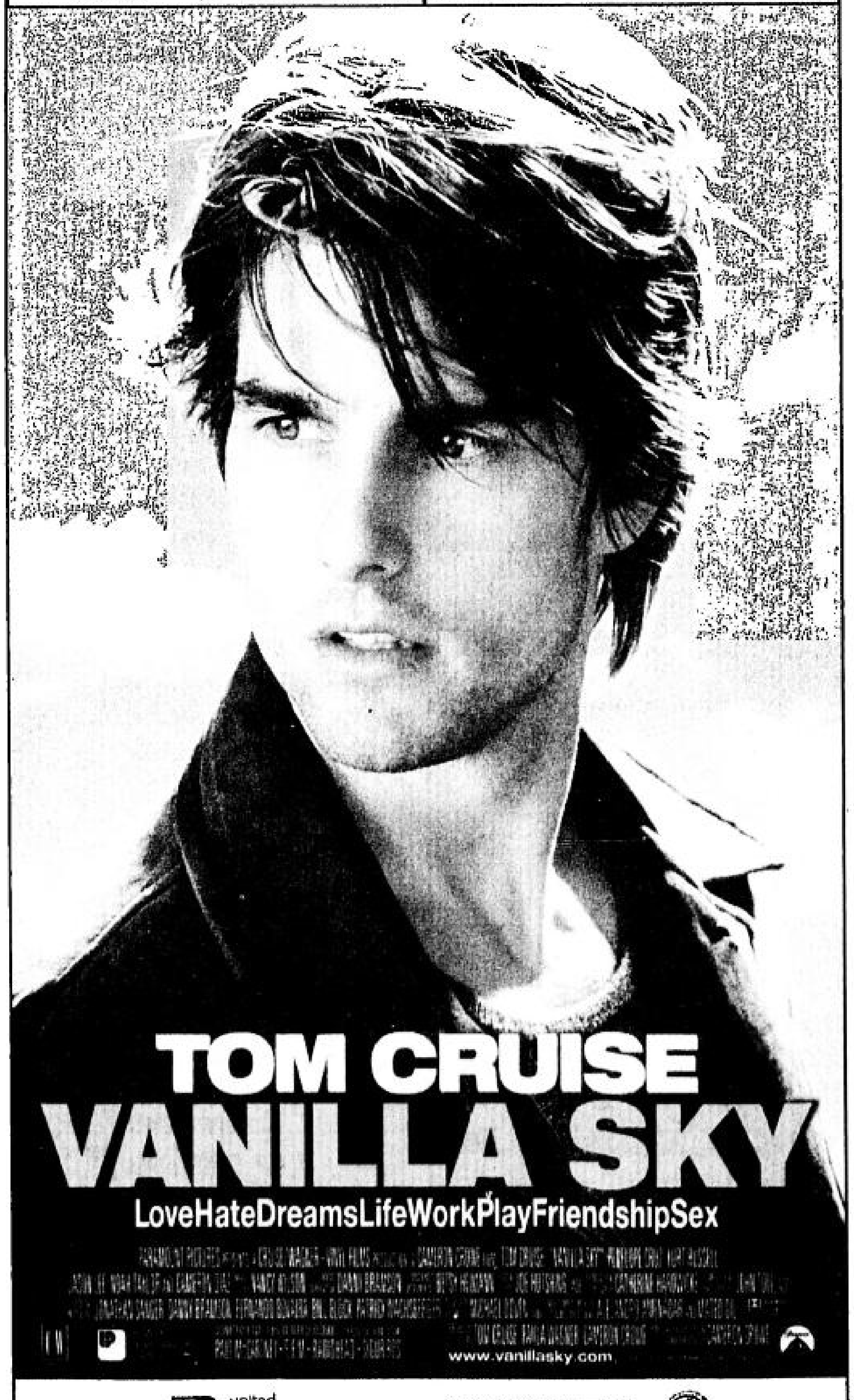
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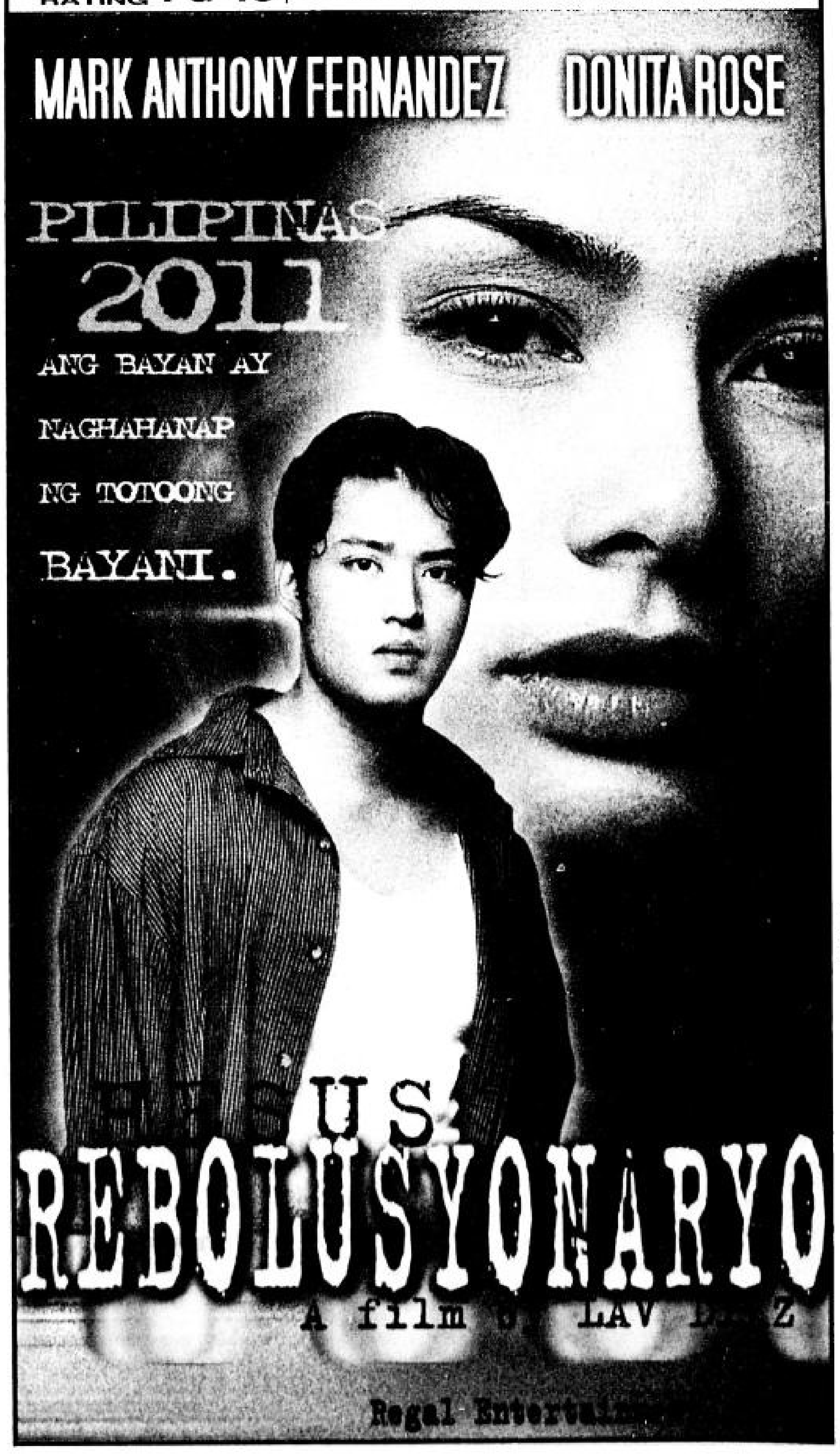
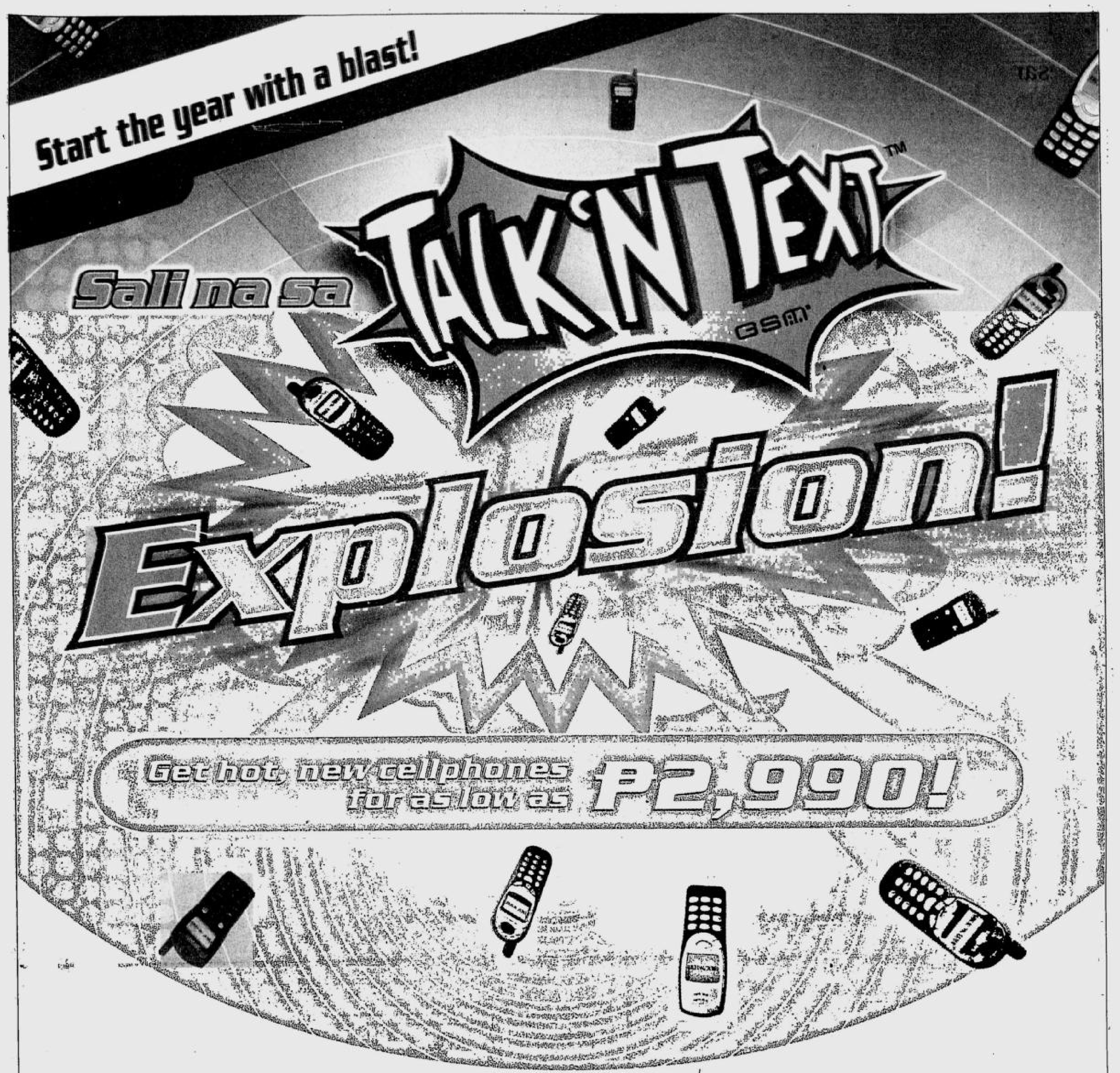

MARK ANTHONY FERNANDEZ
DONITA ROSE
PILIPINAS 2011
ANG BAYAN AY NAGHAHANAP NG TOTOONG BAYANI.
HESUS REBOLUSYONARYO
A film by LAV DIAZ
Regal Entertai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Pacific Mall Legaspi	Jan. 25 - Feb. 24				
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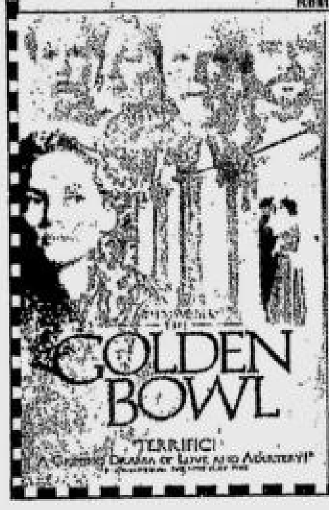
Art Film
SPECIAL ADVANCED SCREENINGS

MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.


GOLDEN BOWL
"TERRIFIC!
A Gripping Drama of Love and Adultery!"

KATE BECKINSALE
ANGELICA HOUSTON
JEREMY NORTHAM
JAMES FOX
NICK NOLTE
& UMA THURMAN

THE GOLDEN BOWL

AN INTRICATELY PLOTTED TALE OF
THWARTED LOVE, BETRAYAL & RETRIBUTION

THE GOLDEN BOWL tells the story of an extravagantly rich American widower and his sheltered daughter, both of who marry only to discover that their respective mates are romantically entangled with each other. Set in England and Italy in the early 1900s, THE GOLDEN BOWL is adapted from the celebrated Henry James novel by the award-winning filmmaking team of producer Ismail Merchant, director James Ivory, and screenwriter Ruth Prawer Jhabvala

THE GOLDEN BOWL is Henry James' longest, most elaborate, and most ambitious novel, and in it, his writing reaches new levels of complexity and sophistication. James' themes are timeless and universal, as he artfully explores the problems of love and marriage.

Screenings on FEB. 4 (Mon.) & 5 (Tue.)

NOKIA INQUIRER

The movie . . .

(From page A27)

As the disillusioned and incompetent mom, Hope Davis serves up an impeccable illustration of Hillary Clinton without a life. Even Mika Boorem as the elfish Carol Gerber is delightful.

"We live in an age of hit-and-run movies—screaming directors, screaming producers, all action—and it's all so mindless boring," the astute Hopkins observes. "But this is a very touching story. I love these small, well-contained, beautiful films."

He nails it right there for me, too. When I don't have to contend with 10,000 by-plots, side scenes, and faux leads, I am able to concentrate more on the unfurling feelings, interactions, and inter-relations.

"Open your eyes," Brautigan advises his young friend. "Do not miss a single second of life."

This is why I go to the movies. This is how I want to be touched—by moments of such happiness, that I am transported somewhere I know will be pleasant and worth the trip.

the film event of the year will start on Feb 13!

ika-9
PELIKULA
LIPUNAN
2002

February 13-19 SM Megamall
February 20-23 SM Iloilo
March 1-2 SM Pampangga
March 8-9 Baguio

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4 newly-restored classics.
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1 DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND	1 THE OTHERS in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	5 HEARTS IN ATLANTIS in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	1 THE LORD OF THE RINGS in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	1 BLACK HAWK DOWN THX in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2 BLACK HAWK DOWN in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	2 BLACK HAWK DOWN in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	6 OCEAN'S ELEVEN in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND	2 BLACK HAWK DOWN in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND	2 DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 KAHIT IKAW AY ISANG PANAGINIP in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	3 BLACK HAWK DOWN THX in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND	7 DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE in DTS DIGITAL SOUND	3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND	3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER in DTS DIGITAL SOUND	4 AMERICAN ADOBO Art Film in DTS DIGITAL SOUND		4 PROMISES PROMISES FEB. 1, 2, 3, 8 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 - 9 PM Onstage	4 KUNG IKAW AY ISANG PANAGINIP in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
				5 HEARTS IN ATLANTIS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

The Ayala mall Events

MAKATI

PHOTOWORLD MANILA 2002

VALENTINES DAY
AT AYALA CENTER

Watch out for following Valentines shows:

- Shows at the Glorietta 4 Park

Feb. 11 / 6 pm
Vina Morales and Ana Fegi

Feb. 12 / 6 pm
Side A

- Shows at Greenbelt 2

Feb. 14
Ogie Alcasid

Feb. 15
Ariel Rivera

ALABANG

THE AYALA MALL EVENTS
This week's Events

Jan. 15-31
GRAND FIESTA SALE

Feb. 2
ART FOR PEACE

Feb. 2
MULLATO BAND SHOW

Feb. 3
MASSKARA TRIBE PARADE
4 PM - Town Plaza

Feb. 3
PEACE & UNITY THROUGH THE ARTS
6 PM - Activity Center

For inquiries please call ATC customer service at 842-2782

CEBU

CALENDAR AD
For the period of Feb. 1 to 3, 2002

Valentine Card Making & Cookie Decorating Contest
Feb. 3, 10 & 24, 2002
(3:30 PM, Activity Center)

USC Festival of the Arts
Feb. 1, 2002
(4:00 PM, Activity Center)

Fashion Show w/ Latin Band
Feb. 1, 2002
(6:30 PM, Lagoon Area)

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SECOND WEEK !

MTRCB RATING PG – 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

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MATT DAMON
ANDY GARCIA
BRAD PITT
AND JULIA ROBERTS

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NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG – 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

"TWO THUMBS UP."
-EBERT & ROEPER

"★★★★"
-Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

"A CAPTIVATING MOVIE EXPERIENCE. ANTHONY HOPKINS CREATES A FASCINATING MYSTIQUE."
-David Sheehan, KCBS-LOS ANGELES

"A TERRIFIC FILM - VERY TOUCHING."
-Bob Parker, CNN NEWSOURCE

"A SUPERB FILM."
-Ed Hold, SLIDELL SENTRY NEWS-NEW ORLEANS

"A QUIETLY POWERFUL, BEAUTIFULLY BURNISHED DEPTH CHARGE OF A MOVIE."
-Jay Carr, BOSTON GLOBE

"TREMENDOUSLY MOVING. ONE OF THE MOST EMOTIONAL FILMS OF THE YEAR."
Colin Boyd, KZON-FM PHOENIX

ANTHONY HOPKINS
HEARTS
IN ATLANTIS

CASTLE ROCK
VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
AOL Keyword: Hearts in Atlantis
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

Dream on!!! Find your true love!

Leandro Munoz
Rafael Rosell IV
Jolina Magdangal

kung ikaw ay isang
panaginip

DIRECTED BY: WENN V. DERAMAS
STAR CINEMA

NOW SHOWING

ENTERTAINMENT

Louie C. Camino, Editor

'HEARTS IN ATLANTIS'

The movie in my mind

By Emmie G. Velarde
Contributor

REVIEW

DO you remember the last summer of your childhood? You see a movie like "Hearts in Atlantis" and secretly wish it were your story.

Based on yet another novel by Stephen King, the Scott Hicks film is about fast friendship between a boy and a mysterious adult. A simple enough plot, except that the man has psychic powers—not the kind that makes unfriendly neighbors disappear but, in fact, the kind that renders people crystal clear. These days it's hard to tell which is a more vulnerable state.

The mysterious adult of my childhood was a woman who lived in a hovel next to what everyone warned was an enchanted mango tree, just barely alive with perpetually brown leaves. She would never let kids near the hapless tree. Although now she might be called an environmentalist, in our eyes it made her something of a witch.

I still wonder about that ragged woman. Often I wish I had been courageous, or just polite, enough to thank her, or nod in her direction, after she delivered to our front gate a slipper that I had left behind during an imagined chase in her hallowed turf.

Heartbreak

"Sometimes when you're young, you have moments of such happiness, you think you're living in someplace magical, like Atlantis must have been . . . then we grow up and our hearts break in two . . ."

All right, this doesn't exactly apply to the slipper anecdote. But when Sir Anthony Hopkins, as the perplexing tenant Ted Brautigan, utters the words while watching three innocents at play, incoherent reminiscences fight for front seats in a flight out of my own memory field and into the present moment.

At the start of the movie, David Morse as the grownup Bobby Garfield says a line about the past being a curious thing, suddenly springing up, taking one to a place that he can only hope is pleasant. Or something to this effect.

As the movie progresses, I stop counting the times it brings me close to tears, coaxed by parallel, though sometimes not even similar, recollections. It is like following two narratives, one gently unfolding on the screen in front of me, the other, more random, through a door suddenly flung open in the back of my head.

Defenseless

To illustrate: For his 11th birthday, Bobby's mom gives him a library card for a present. When I was nine, I stole a book from the village library. Bobby is voracious for information about his father, who died six years ago, when the boy was just five.

Six years ago, when I was an age divisible by five, my father passed on, too. I was an adult on all counts and several times over at the time, and yet now I still feel I could have known him better.

A take-out espresso that I nursed for almost a full hour in the moviehouse could have played tricks on my heart. Or maybe I was caught defenseless by this movie version of a book that, quite frankly, sparks me silly. I read it through to the back covers only to chance upon sparks of the author's deftly reined-in romanticism, i.e., "the kiss against which all others in your life will be measured . . . and found wanting."

Incidentally, the book, published in 1999, is an anthology of five stories related to the Vietnam War and woven together by several elements, among them, the baseball glove that sets the movie in motion. "Hearts in Atlantis" is the second story, but the movie is based on the first one, "Low Men in Yellow Coats."

Mauled

American critics have mauled this movie for reasons I cannot begin to fathom. One says anyone looking for a two-hour snooze will be rewarded, and adds that he's had more exciting naps. Another says it diminishes the legacy of "Stand By Me," an earlier movie from a Stephen King book. Well, okay, if it's put that way . . .

Even so, screenwriter William Goldman has done a marvelous job of restructuring the slow-moving "Atlantis" book, and allowing only bite-size portions of "mood" shots and scenes.

For instance, there's always just enough blank-ness on the psychic Brautigan's face when his penetrating, but impenetrable, mind wanders off to read another's. These parts never take more than 30 seconds at a time.

Also, Bobby always recovers from hurt repeatedly inflicted by his self-absorbed mother in a way many boys his age do—quickly, if temporarily. Fortunately for us, this likewise means before those scenes become manipulative.

For all their bellyaching, the disgruntled critics are hard-put to fault the acting.

I had visualized a younger and leaner Brautigan, but I have no regrets about Hopkins, who is able to lock up Hannibal the Cannibal somewhere completely out of the way and create yet another memorable character in his exceptional collection.

Touching

Anton Yelchin as little Bobby is spontaneous and endearing (Director Hicks, in all his intuitive wisdom, held out until he found Yelchin, it is said).

THE MOVIE/A26

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

G	A	T	O	R	■	A	D	A	Y	■	R	E	D	S	■	■	C	A	S	K
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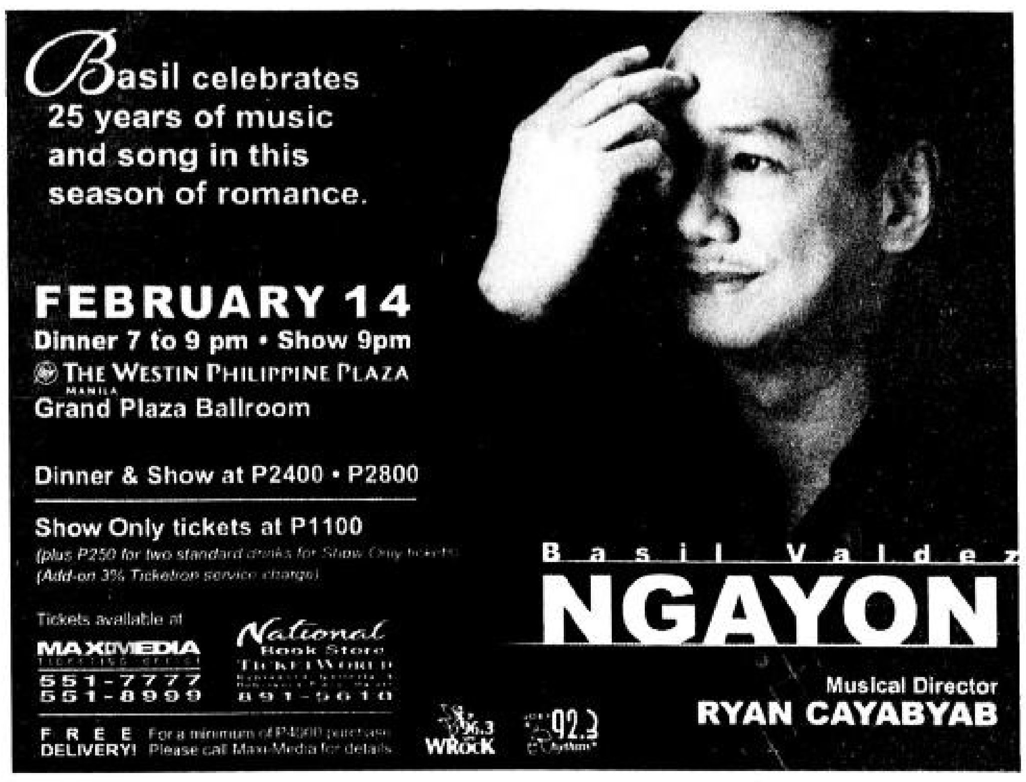

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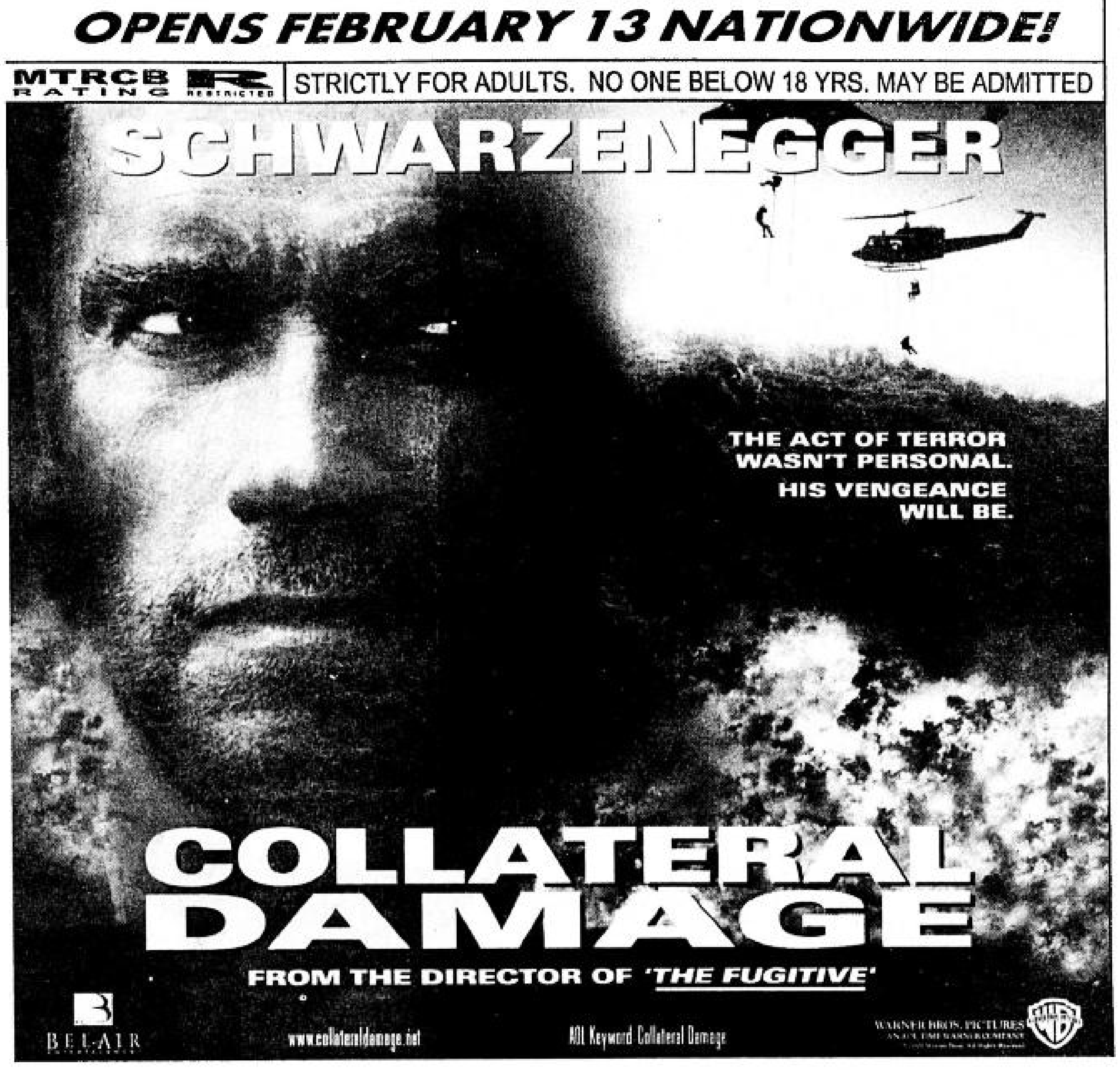
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THE ACT OF TERROR WASN'T PERSONAL. HIS VENGEANCE WILL BE.
COLLATERAL DAMAGE

OPENS FEBRUARY 13 NATIONWIDE!

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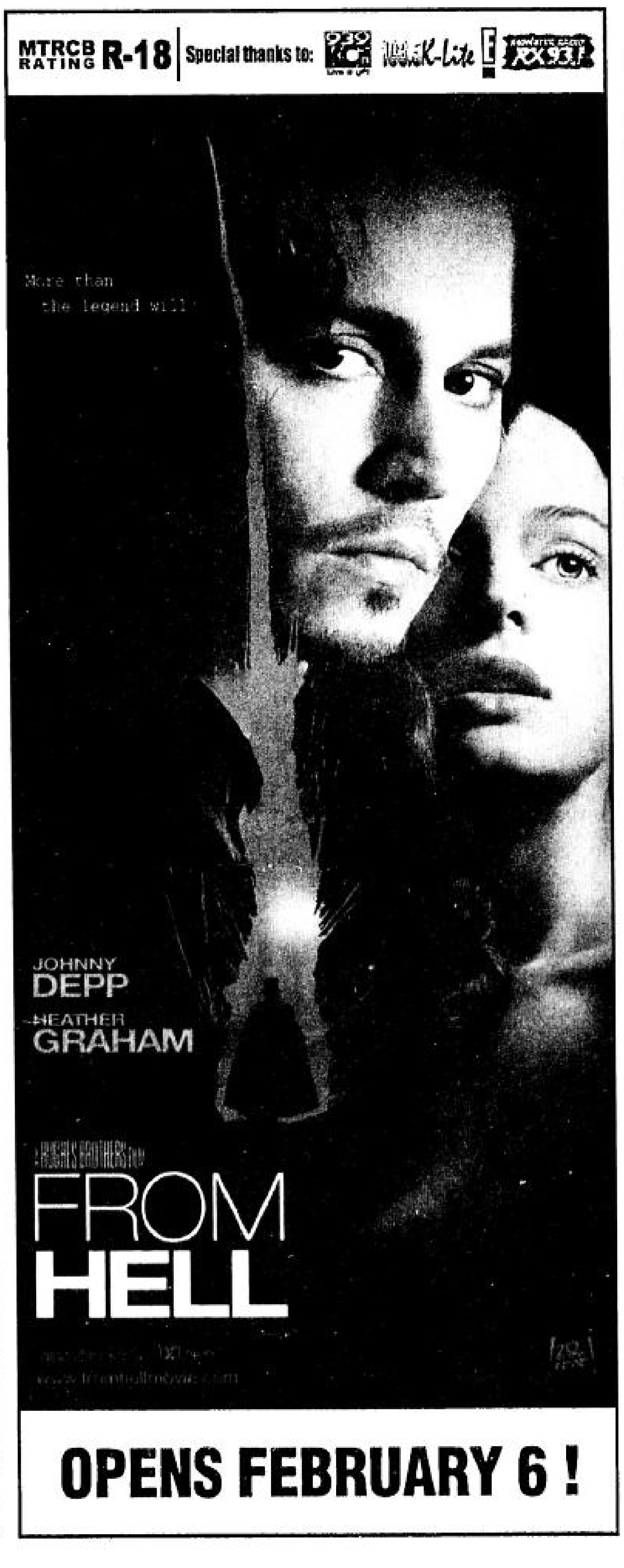
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *'THE FUGITIVE'*

BEL-AIR www.collateraldamage.net AOL Keyword Collateral Damage WARNER BROS. PICTURES



MTRCB RATING R-18 | Special thanks to: 99.5 RCh 105.1 Mellow/K-Lite E XX93.1

OPENS FEBRUARY 6 !

Meg RYAN
Hugh JACKMAN
KATE & LEOPOLD

OPENS FEB. 6

"Two thumbs up!"
- EBERT & ROEPER

Kate McKay is a 21st century woman driven to succeed in the corporate world.

Leopold, the third Duke of Albany, is a charming gent and bachelor of the late-1800s.

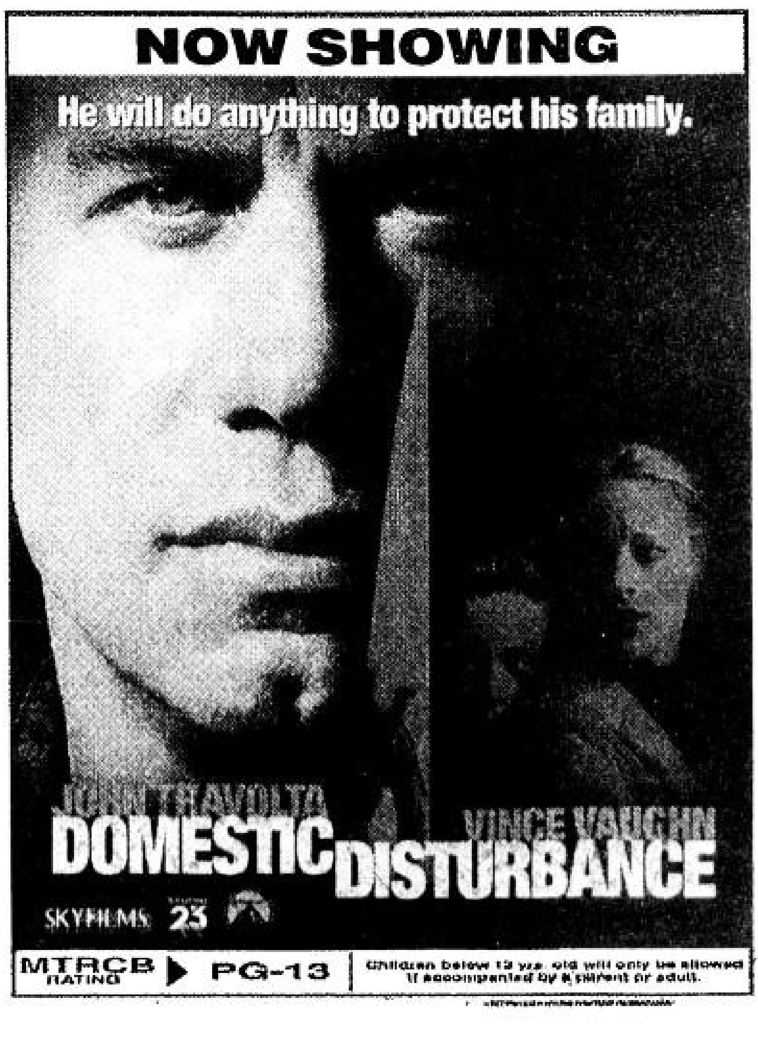
"Seriously romantic & funny!"
- US WEEKLY

They were two strangers separated by a hundred years. When they meet, a century's worth of differences come crashing together.

"Superb chemistry that lights up the screen!"
- NORTHWESTERN CABLE NEWS

SKYFILMS MIRAMAX 23

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED.



NOW SHOWING

SKYFILMS 23

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a landmark reinvented!
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CINEMA 1	BLACK HAWK DOWN 11:20/ 2:00/ 4:40/ 7:20/ 10:00 P 13
CINEMA 2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN 10:35/ 12:50/ 3:05/ 7:35/ 9:50 P 13

Matinee: P80.00 - Screenings before 5:00pm, Monday thru Friday (Free Seating).
Reserved Seating: P120.00 - After 5:00pm; Saturday, Sunday, Holidays.
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DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

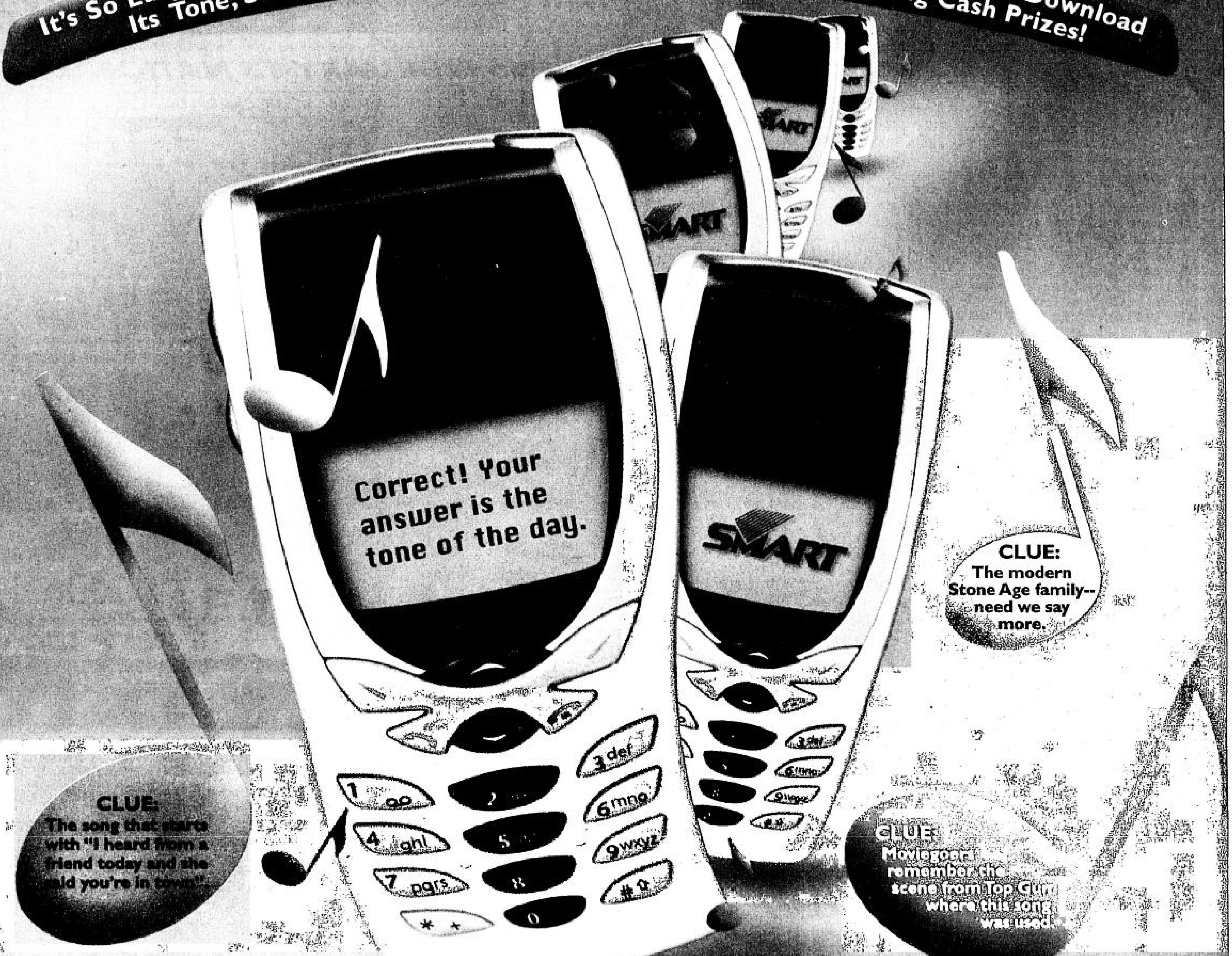
OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 11:20, 1:45, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00	BLACK HAWK DOWN - P13 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE - P13 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS - P13 11:25, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50	BLACK HAWK DOWN - P13 10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

Matinee. P80. Mon.-Fri..11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings. Free Seating.

SMART

Name That Tone

It's So Easy! This Game Is All Via Text. You'll Get A Clue About A Song, Then Download Its Tone, So You Can Guess The Title And Sing Your Way To Big Cash Prizes!


Correct! Your answer is the tone of the day.
SMART
CLUE: The modern Stone Age family-- need we say more.
CLUE: The song that starts with "I heard from a friend today and she said you're in town".
CLUE: Moviegoers remember the scene from Top Gun where this song was used.

A Blast Of Over

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In Cash Prizes To Be Raffled Away!

SMART
Simply Amazing!

SMART NAME THAT TONE SETS THE BEAT FOR SOUNDS AND PRIZES

Promo is from December 9, 2001 to February 10, 2002

Register Now!

Key in NTT and send to 234. Then follow the succeeding instructions;

- Key in NAME <your full name> and send to 234.
- Key in BIRTH <mmddyyyy> and send to 234.
- Key in ADD <address> and send to 234.

Your registration automatically earns you a raffle entry for all weekly draws.

Play The Game!

You will then receive a clue about the mystery tone of the day.

Guess The Title By Downloading The Tone!

Key in TONE and send to 234. Together with the downloaded tone, you will also receive the multiple choice set of ringtone titles.

Text in your Answer!

ANSWER A

Simply key in ANSWER <A, B or C> and send to 234. You will receive a message telling you whether you got the correct answer or not. There will only be one chance to guess the mystery tone of the day. Each correct answer earns you 5 raffle entries for the Weekly, Monthly and Grand draws.

Invite Your Friends And Earn More Raffle Entries!

Key in INVITE <your friend's SMART celfone number> and send to 234. Each invite earns you 1 raffle entry, to be added to your total raffle entries.

To redisplay the clue, key in SHOW and send to 234.

To check your raffle entries, key in POINTS and send to 234.

To temporarily stop receiving the daily questions, key in UPDATE OFF and send to 234.
To resume receiving the daily questions, key in UPDATE ON and send to 234.
The mystery tone of the day will be updated at 12 midnight daily.

Only subscribers with ringtone-download-capable handsets will be able to hear the mystery tone of the day. However, downloading is necessary to get the multiple choice set of ringtone titles. A subscriber without the necessary handset can still answer based on the clue and multiple choice set of ringtone titles.

GET A CHANCE TO WIN THESE PRIZES!

DRAW DATE	CASH PRIZE
GRAND DRAW: (1 winner) Feb. 11, 2002	**₱200,000.00**
MONTHLY DRAW: (1 winner per draw) Feb. 11, 2002	**₱50,000.00**
WEEKLY DRAWS: (3 winners per draw) Feb. 4 and 11, 2002	**₱10,000.00**

**There will be a standard charge of ₱12.00 per ringtone download and ₱2.50 per message for all other transactions.*
**Cut-off time for the entries will be at 11:59 PM of the day before the draw date.*
**Ringtone-download-capable handsets are: Nokia 3210, 3310, 3330, 6150, 6210, 6250, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8310, and 9210.*

See flyers for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0247, Series of 2002.

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SundayBIZ
Raul O. Marcelo, Editor ■ Margie Quimpo-Espino, Business Features Editor

What's this feisty exec up to?

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

SHE may have been out of the country for six months but in many ways, it was like she never left with all her activities both here and in the United States.

This lady has been at it without letup, true to the form of top advertising executive Yoly Villanueva-Ong.

Ong is a full-time student at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and on top of that she still runs her office from 10,000 miles away; organized a support group for Filipinos, and is pushing for Philippine elements in the Harvard curriculum.

Oh and she has been getting "A"s.

But then nothing less is expected of Ong, chair of Campaigns and Grey, one of the top advertising agencies in the country.

Ong is on a one-year study grant under the Edward Mason program.

She says her first six months have been encouraging as these were full of learnings.

The 9-11 tragedy caused a change in her plans—instead of her family spending Christmas with her in Boston, she decided to come home for the semestral break.

She was kind enough to drop by the INQUIRER office for a chat, the day before she flew back to Boston.

The ebullient lady was as vivacious and as dynamic as ever despite the tragedy her ad agency experienced last year. Two of the top executives of Campaigns and Grey passed away within a week of each other.

"I checked on the chances of that happening and it is one out of 3 million," Ong exclaims.

The deaths were enough to make her fly back last October and host a posthumous event to bid two dear colleagues farewell and to assure clients and staff that everything is okay.

While some people said that Campaigns might have a hard time looking for replacements, the opposite happened. Ong says several people have expressed interest in the two positions.

'People should tell politicians to shut up and buckle down to work'

With her office problems almost solved, Ong can concentrate more on her studies, not that she really needs to put in more effort.

As expected, the broadcasting graduate of the University of the Philippines and the first Filipino to sit as judge at the prestigious Clio Awards (the Oscars of the advertising world) has been making the grade in the Kennedy School of Government where she is gunning for a degree in public administration.

Ong was also able to put up Transitions, a support group of Filipinos for Filipinos. She set it up after Sept. 11 as many Filipinos lost a loved one in the World Trade Center tragedy and no Filipino could offer any help.

She notes that the country has trauma experts but they are sent to East Timor. She does not know of anyone who was sent to the US to help Filipinos.

But the group is not just for the victims of 9-11, it is also intended to help Filipinos in the United States, especially the students.

She marvels at the Singaporeans' support group. She says the group prepares everything from the quarters to transportation, familiarization tours for the benefit of a Singaporean student who is going to the US for the first time.

She is also starting to move for the introduction of "Philippine elements" in the Harvard curriculum.

A required paper on Gender Empowerment got her an "A" when she featured former US first lady and current Sen. Hillary Clinton.

While in Manila, Ong interviewed President Macapagal-Arroyo for another paper that she hopes would be good enough to be made into a case study for the Kennedy School.

She also wants the people power events in the Philippines to be made into cases in Harvard.

CAMPAIGNS and Grey's Yoly Villianueva-Ong. ROGER MARGALLO

She qualified for four methodological areas of concentration—political advocacy, leadership, campaigns and elections and public relations. But since she is only allowed two, she chose political advocacy and leadership.

After six months of study under top professors like former Canadian Prime Minister Kim Campbell, David Gergen, who coined the phrase "spin doctor," marketing genius Walter Bennis, a former chief speech writer of US President Bill Cinton, Marshall Gunns, an expert on union organizing, Ong immediately spotted a "well-oiled machinery" that is working to make the opposition look good when she arrived last December.

The campaign, she noted, aims to create the misconception that Macapagal's programs are mere adoptions of the former President "Erap" Estrada's programs.

"The moment I landed, I could see the fingerprints all over the place," Ong states.

She has to admit that the people

WHAT'S/B2

MEI MAGSINO, PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
TOTOY Cuento shows off his biggest "balisong," also known as the Lolo.

Deadly blade keeps village alive

By Mei Magsino
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LIPA CITY—To most Batangueños, the *balisong*, or fan knife, is life.

"The business of making and selling *balisong* is what pushes us to preserve this century-old tradition," says Totoy Cuento, one of the city's blade makers.

"And while most people think of *balisong* as a weapon that can kill, it has kept the people of Barangay Balisong alive," he adds.

Cuento, 50, started his balisong venture in 1987, a business that he inherited from his father, who, like all the other residents of Barangay Balisong in Taal town, was also a fan-knife craftsman.

The knife was obviously named after the village and crafting balisong has become a major means of livelihood. Almost every household has a shop and a family member engaged in the craft.

Experiment

Cuento's business started three years ago as an experiment with only two helpers. Since his first sale, he has received a steady flow of orders from local buyers.

"I then decided to increase the number of workers to 30. I allowed them to bring their work to their homes," Cuento says.

Each worker can make 13-15 pieces of balisong a day.

Cuento now exports his products to San Francisco, California. Villagers said that the export business provided a big boost to the local business.

He opened two outlets in Rustan's shopping center in Cubao, Quezon City, and at the Sta. Lucia Mall.

"Our biggest clients still come from all over the Philippines, mostly local tourists, who feel that their tour of the historic Taal town will not be complete if they do not get the balisong straight from the place that manufactures it," he says.

It is ironic, however, that unlike his father, Cuento does not know how to make the famed blade himself, even if he is the most successful balisong businessman in town.

"I just know how to market it, and when you have a steady flow of clients, everything goes smoothly in the business," he claims.

Balisong-making started in Taal, a fourth-class municipality and considered a national heritage town, in 1901, right where Barangay Balisong is situated.

A tinsmith named Perfecto de Leon was credited for making the first balisong, when he experimented on concealing the steel blade in a housing that can be split open.

De Leon created the first balisong by grinding the blade on a rough stone by hand.

In time, the demand for the uniquely designed knife strengthened. De Leon taught his neighbors how to make balisong to meet orders from a growing clientele. All the young men eventually mastered the craft, which was passed on to the next generation.

Now, one can see balisong stores all along the national highway. Even the arched gateway at the Batangas landmark sports a giant balisong.

Some tourists even call Batangas the Balisong Country.

'Balisong'-making

The balisong blade is made of steel that manufacturers like Cuento buy from Laguna. The metal is placed on a fire until it turns red-hot.

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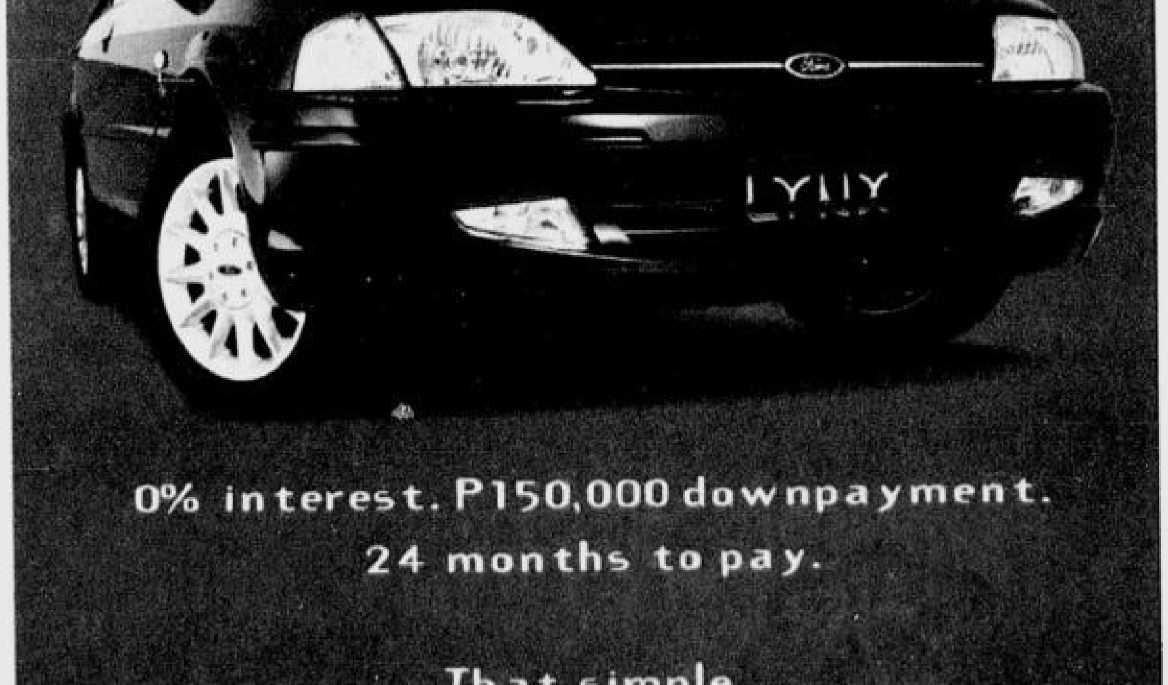

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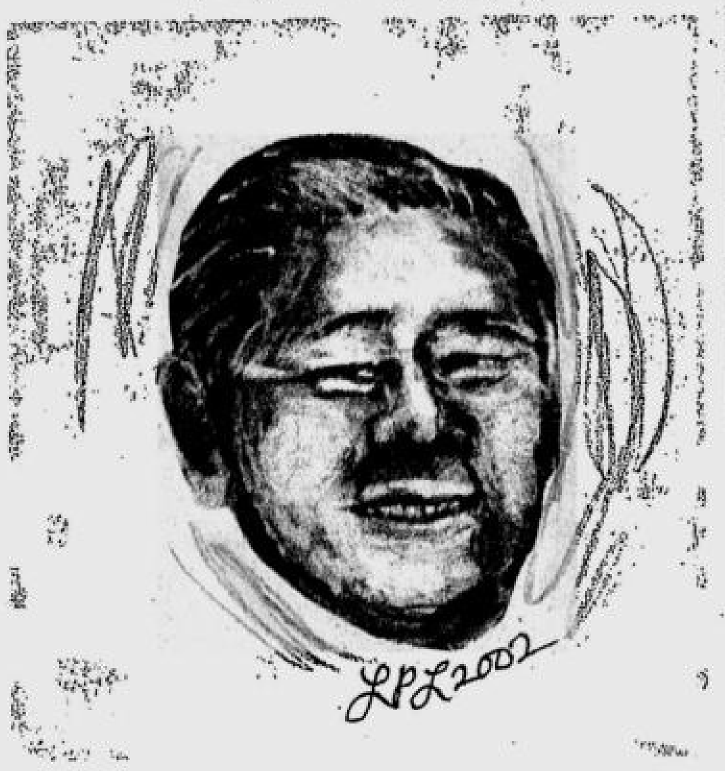


JUST when some people were starting to get used to the idea of Ramon Sy being the new president of the Philippine National Bank, he changed his mind and decided to stay at Inernational Exchange Bank. So if it's not him, who will be the next PNB president.

What's this feisty . . .

From page B1

behind the destabilizing moves are "very good and beside them, the government may seem like amateurs."

The use of the opposition's propagandists of the class war concept is also brilliant, she says.

"We change our government one more time and that is suicide. It is the kiss of death," she says of the continuing efforts of the Estrada camp to make people think he is still the head of the country.

She points out that no matter what President Macapagal does, it will be misconstrued as positioning for 2004.

"She should do her programs but not talk of the results," she says.

Ong says media should do its part in nation building by featuring more developmental news and featuring more positive stories.

She points out it is important for the country to have a common vision and there should be a constant monitoring of that vision.

"People should be more positive, people should tell politicians to shut up and buckle down to work," she adds.

Her being outspoken has also earned Ong some enemies and she is wary even while in the US. Her life was threatened in the aftermath of the senatorial elections last year because her advocacy group, Capri, created a series of ads titled *"Iboboto n'yo ba sila?"*

The campaign featured some unpopular actions of Gregorio Honasan, Juan Ponce Enrile, Miriam Defensor Santiago and Panfilo Lacson, with the tagline *"Iboboto,"* at the end.

Honasan and Lacson still made it to the Senate but Enrile and Santiago lost.

Charismatic, intelligent or ethical leadership?

EXECUTIVE READ

"Leadership: Enhancing the Lessons of Experience"
By Richard Hughes, Robert Ginnett
& Gordon Curphy
Irwin McGraw-Hill, 1999

By Dante M. Velasco

WHAT would you rather have—a leader with charisma or a leader with "IQ"?

Someone has thus oversimplified the choice of the kind of leader we need in this country. The person speaking was no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo, presenting herself as a leader gifted with intelligence.

And the person alluded to as "charismatic" is ousted President and now aging actor Joseph Ejercito Estrada, with the obvious implication that he is wanting in gray matter.

"Are we limited to such choices?" someone asked with obvious disillusionment. Friend Perfecto Yasay Jr.—known for charisma and intelligence—told a gathering: "It is not enough to have charisma or IQ; we need one governed by high ethical principles to lead this country."

"Should the President even have to emphasize that she has high IQ? Isn't it proper to simply show such intelligence in her decision making, rather than talk about it?" Yasay asked.

Obviously, much dust has flown due to this presidential remark, and the idea of leadership has again invaded our coffee shops and cocktail bars—and solicited and unsolicited interpretations have been exchanged.

There is a book, "Leadership: Enhancing the Lessons of Experience," which asks questions, provides answers from scholars and practitioners—and ends up with the thought that, indeed, "leadership is a complex phenomenon."

This is supposed to be a textbook on leadership for graduate management students, but it doesn't read like one. It wastes no time driving headlong into controversial topics.

Part I, for example, deals with the topic: "Leadership Is a Process, Not a Position." This immediately opens hot subjects on "interaction" and on the need for "education."

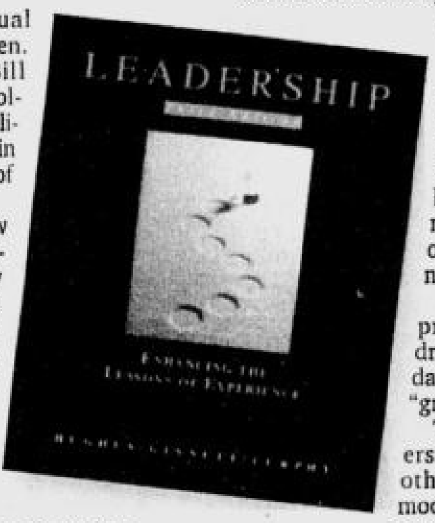
"Focus on the Leader," the main topic of Part II, dwells on power and influence, ethics and values, intelligence and creativity, leadership behavior and—lo and behold!—"charisma and transformational leadership."

On charisma, the book says: "The basis of authority in the charismatic authority system comes from society's belief in the exemplary characteristics of the leader. Charismatic leaders are thought to possess superhuman qualities or powers of divine origin which set them apart from ordinary mortals."

Charismatic leaders become bigger than life, amplified by television and, as applied to our local story, exaggerated by action movies! Thus was born the Erap myth of invincibility and charm.

The book cited as examples Ayatollah Khomeini and Mahatma Gandhi. "These individuals wielded a considerable amount of power in Iran and India because of who they were, not because they were the first-born sons or had occupied a position that allowed them to wield power," the authors say.

But the book also underscores the need for intelligence: "Virtually every institution in our society today faces dynamic and complex challenges. It is no wonder then that organizations of all sorts are placing a greater premium on hiring smart and innovative leaders. It is certainly easy to think of particular leaders who are known for their superior intellect."



To illustrate the intellectual leader, the book cites former Sen. Bill Bradley and President Bill Clinton who were Rhodes Scholars, "one indication of high intelligence." What about a doctorate in economics from the University of the Philippines?

Charisma, or our limited view of it, has led us to elect a president who would subsequently be ousted because of a failure to govern. Intelligence was possessed by a bar topnotcher who later plunged the country to its darkest days under martial law.

Perhaps, we need a moral leader, a friend of mine volunteers.

The book has something to say about that, too. "Leaders face ethical dilemmas at all levels, and the best leaders recognize and face them with a commitment to doing what is right, not just what is expedient." This is equivalent to saying we need statesmen as leaders, not politicians.

Is politics bad? During lunch with former Senate President Jovito Salonga, he overheard one saying that politics is bad. His rejoinder was both illuminating and edifying. He said: "Politics can be ennobling."

And he recalled that momentous day when he decided he would work quietly but resolutely for the dismantling of the US military bases, using the ways of politics. The rest is history. We thus concluded that politics can actually be redeemed from its dirty manifestations and machinations.

"Doing what is right sounds deceptively simple," the book points out. "Sometimes it will take great moral courage to do what is right, even when the right action seems clear. At other times, though, leaders face ethically complex issues that lack simple black-and-white answers."

The book brings you, the reader, to a world of leaders—and managers—subjecting them to analysis and allowing space for the "x" factor. It is also a book that offers personality sketches of leaders, quotable quotes about leadership, psychological analyses on what makes leaders tick, and a great number of case studies to illuminate theories and observations.

This book will serve as a much-needed prism by which we view national and global leaders. Through such many-sided prism, we can identify attributes, place leaders in context, and conclude that with such a combination we will have one great leader!

Leaders do not easily fit into neat formulas or tidy frameworks of analysis. There is much room for that indescribable factor and that unexpected heroic moment. The book also recognizes that. Nonetheless, we will come away more prepared to view our leaders with trained, not moist, eyes.

A strong case is here presented that leaders driven by high ethical standards have what it takes for "greatness."

The book stresses: "Leaders set a moral example to others that becomes the model for an entire group or organization, for good or bad. Leaders who themselves do not honor truth do not inspire it in others. Leaders mostly concerned with their own advancement do not inspire selflessness in others. Leaders should internalize a strong set of ethics, principles of right conduct or a system of moral values."

Charisma or IQ? Judging by the book, not one of them figures. This book is highly recommended to believers and non-believers in moral leadership. It is, after all, the way to go.

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Recycling firm fights toxic waste, provides income

A RECYLING company in the Subic Bay Freeport Zone has been effectively keeping thousands of tons of toxic plastic and metal away from the dumpsites, thus earning the nod of environmentalists.

Printing Images CtC Inc. buys empty inkjet cartridges and sells these as quality re-manufactured inkjet cartridges to various customers all over the world.

Dr. Judea Millora of ZKK Foundation (Zero Kalat sa Kaunlaran) and the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines noted that Printing Images CtC Inc. is very good proof that recycling helps improve the environment and at the same time encourages entrepreneurship. ZKK Foundation won the Best NGO award for recycling in the First Asian Waste Management Excellence Award held in Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 7, 2001 given by the highly respected Regional Institute for Environmental Technology. This awards-giving body is composed of environment groups from the European Commission and Asian countries.

Norbert Grimm, president of Printing Images CtC Inc., reported that every month they are able to collect an average of 50,000 pieces of empty inkjet cartridges. Since each cartridge weighs about 45-50 grams, he said, his company has been able to keep away some 2,500 kilograms of toxic plastic and metal every month from the dumpsites. For 2001, the company collected some 600,000 pieces.

Printing Images CtC Inc. is the only one in the country known to be in this business. However, it depends on a big army of collectors, involving many individuals and groups who have found the business both financially profitable and psychologically rewarding for its environmental implications.

"There is a lot more empty inkjet cartridges that find their way to the dumpsites, so we would like to reach out to all those who have used up their inkjet cartridges for them to sell these to us," Grimm said. "The market all over the world is far from being exhausted. There are more and more buyers of quality re-manufactured inkjet cartridges, for economical and ecological reasons."

The success of the business is based on sound, environment-friendly management and on technology know-how for ink formulation. The workforce of 90 is well-motivated with good pay, free lunch and snacks twice a day, every working day. The premises are clean, the rooms adequately lighted and ventilated. Other evidences of recycling can be seen in the premises, such as used drums that formerly contained ingredients for the ink have been recycled into planters for yellow bells and other plants, and arranged all around the fence to enliven and provide more oxygen for the compound.

Printing Images CtC Inc., Grimm proudly revealed, does not owe any creditors and is in good standing with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority where the office headquarters (Tel. No. 047- 252- 6012) is located. Its major branch is in Makati (8954994). Also, the company buys its raw materials for ink formulation and other needs from the local dealers.

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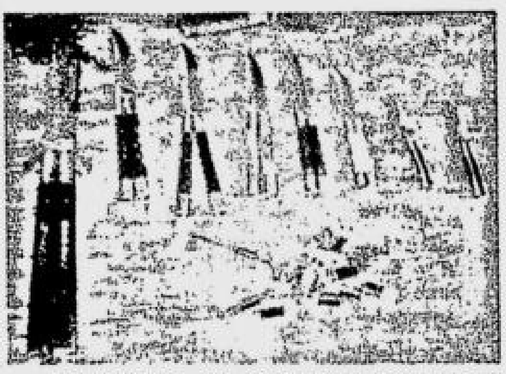


MEI MAGSINO, PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

BALISONG in different sizes (from left): the 42-centimeter fan knife known as the Tatay balisong, the 30-cm called the beintenueve, the 25-cm or the Tiyo, the 15-cm or the Kuya and the 12, 10, and the 8 cm. Below is the smallest balisong in key chain called the Apo. Above is the razorblade also manufactured in Barangay Balisong, Taal.

Deadly blade . . .

From page B1

A tinsmith named Perfecto de Leon was credited for making the first balisong, when he experimented on concealing the steel blade in a housing that can be split open.

De Leon created the first balisong by grinding the blade on a rough stone by hand.

In time, the demand for the uniquely designed knife strengthened. De Leon taught his neighbors how to make balisong to meet orders from a growing clientele. All the young men eventually mastered the craft, which was passed on to the next generation.

Now, one can see balisong stores all along the national highway. Even the arched gateway at the Batangas landmark sports a giant balisong.

Some tourists even call Batangas the Balisong Country.

'Balisong'-making

The balisong blade is made of steel that manufacturers like Cuento buy from Laguna. The metal is placed on a fire until it turns red-hot.

The tinsmith dips the steel in crude oil and then water, and shapes it into a blade. The blade is sharpened by a grinding machine.

"We don't manufacture balisong manually now. Most of the work is done by electrical equipment," Cuento says.

The handle is made of brass and designed with wood, plastic or even horse's bone.

Manufacturers used to buy the horse's bone from Malabon or Navotas in Metro Manila, where most butchering shops are found. But since the price of the bone rose, Cuento has resorted to a cheaper but durable alternative—ivory-colored plastics.

Profit

"Considering the cost of materials and labor, a direct manufacturer like me can get more than 100-percent profit in the outlets alone," Cuento discloses.

Balisong knives cost from P60 to P2,000, depending on the size and design.

In his store, Cuento has all sizes of balisong, such as the 10-, 12-, 15-, 25- and the 29-centimeter fan-knives.

"The 42-cm knife is the biggest," he says. "That's why it is considered the Lolo balisong."

Most of his clients mistake the 10- and 12-cm knives for the *beinte nueve* or 29-cm knife.

According to Cuento, the real *beinte nueve* is 29 cm long when opened and 14.5 to 15 cm when closed.

"And this one-inch balisong key chain can also kill," Cuento jokingly says, raising a small fan knife, "That is, if you swallow it."

Slowly vanishing craft

Cuento's father, grandfather and great grandfather were all balisong makers.

"*Balisong* was the family's source of income then. The money that came from this business helped me, my four sisters and two brothers go through college," he boasts.

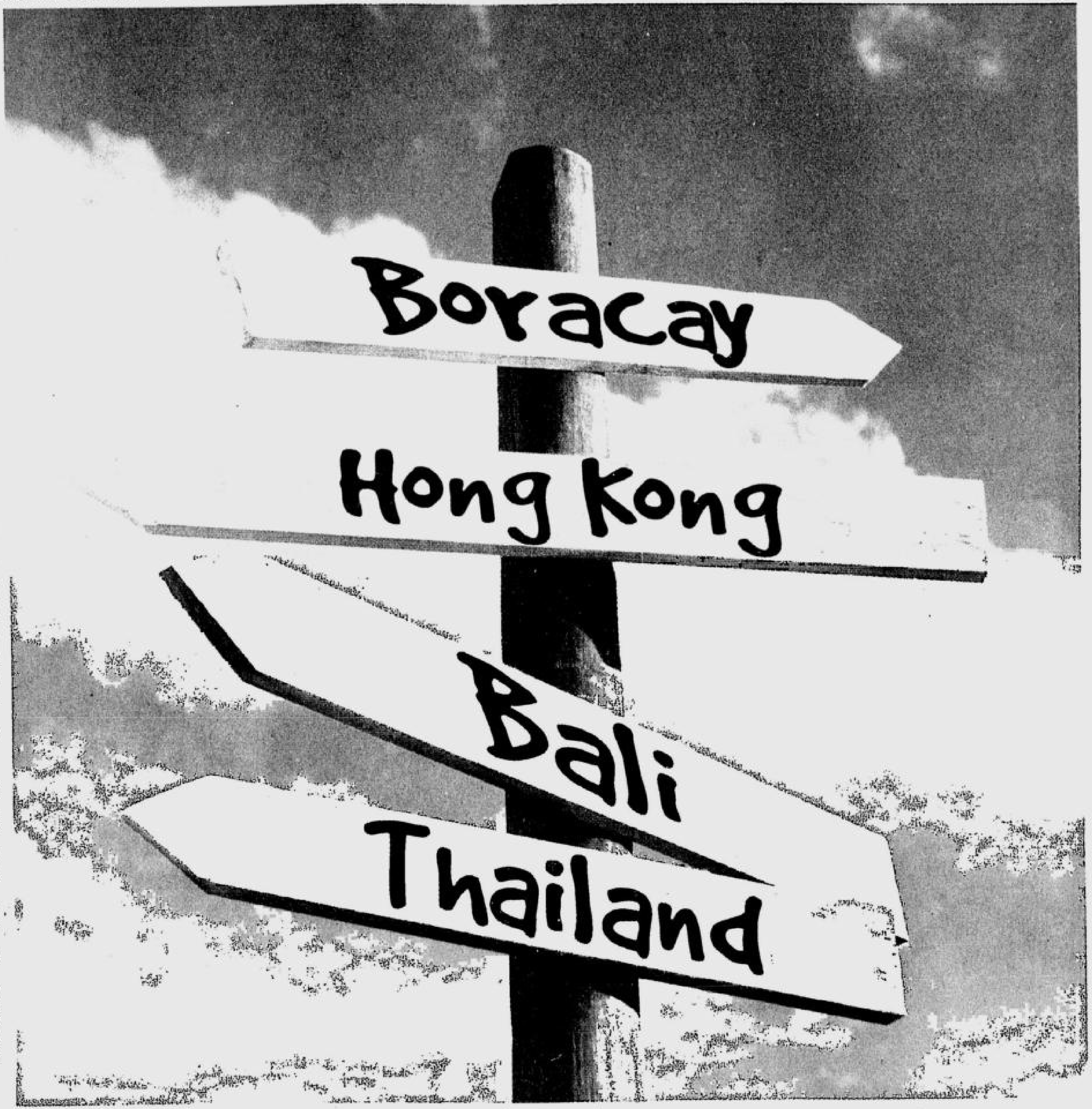
Two of his brothers are now doctors; a sister, nurse; and the rest, like him, have ventured into their own businesses.

His elder brother Reynaldo started earlier and is now the supplier of fan knives for a big chain of stores.

The business also gave Cuento the Panday Pira Award in 1996 for a successful business venture, the biggest achievement he has ever had.

But the youth now, according to him, prefers text messaging, playing with the computer and other electronic devices instead of mastering the craft of balisong-making and keeping the town's tradition alive.

"We are now promoting the skill among the youths," Cuento says "Right now, I'm encouraging my boys and my young neighbors to make balisong. We can't afford to lose this tradition that has kept us alive for a century now."



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3. Cut out the raffle stub portion as directed (for HP Inkjet print cartridges, the entire box will serve as the entry) and drop entries in any of the **"Print Your Own Adventure"** drop boxes at selected HP dealers nationwide. All drop boxes will be labeled per area.
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1st Raffle Draw (GMA/Luzon): Feb. 27, 2002
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[2] Winners of Sony Discman
[2] Winners of P5,000 Nike Gift Certificates
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2nd Raffle Draw (Visayas/Mindanao): March 20, 2002
Deadline for submission of entries: March 13, 2002
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[2] Winners of Sony Discman
[5] Winners of P5,000 Nike Gift Certificates
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3rd Raffle Draw (GMA/Luzon): April 10, 2002
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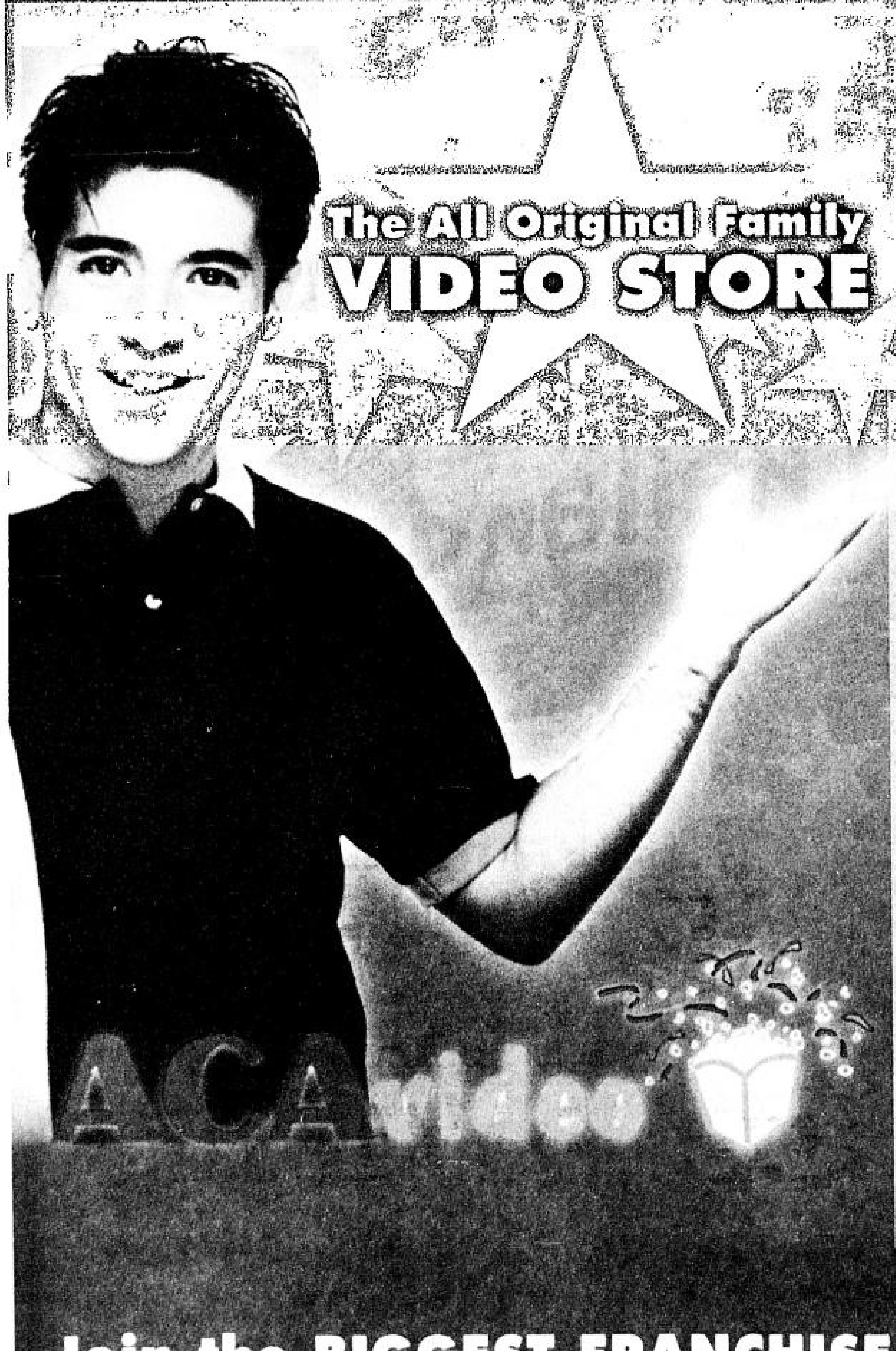

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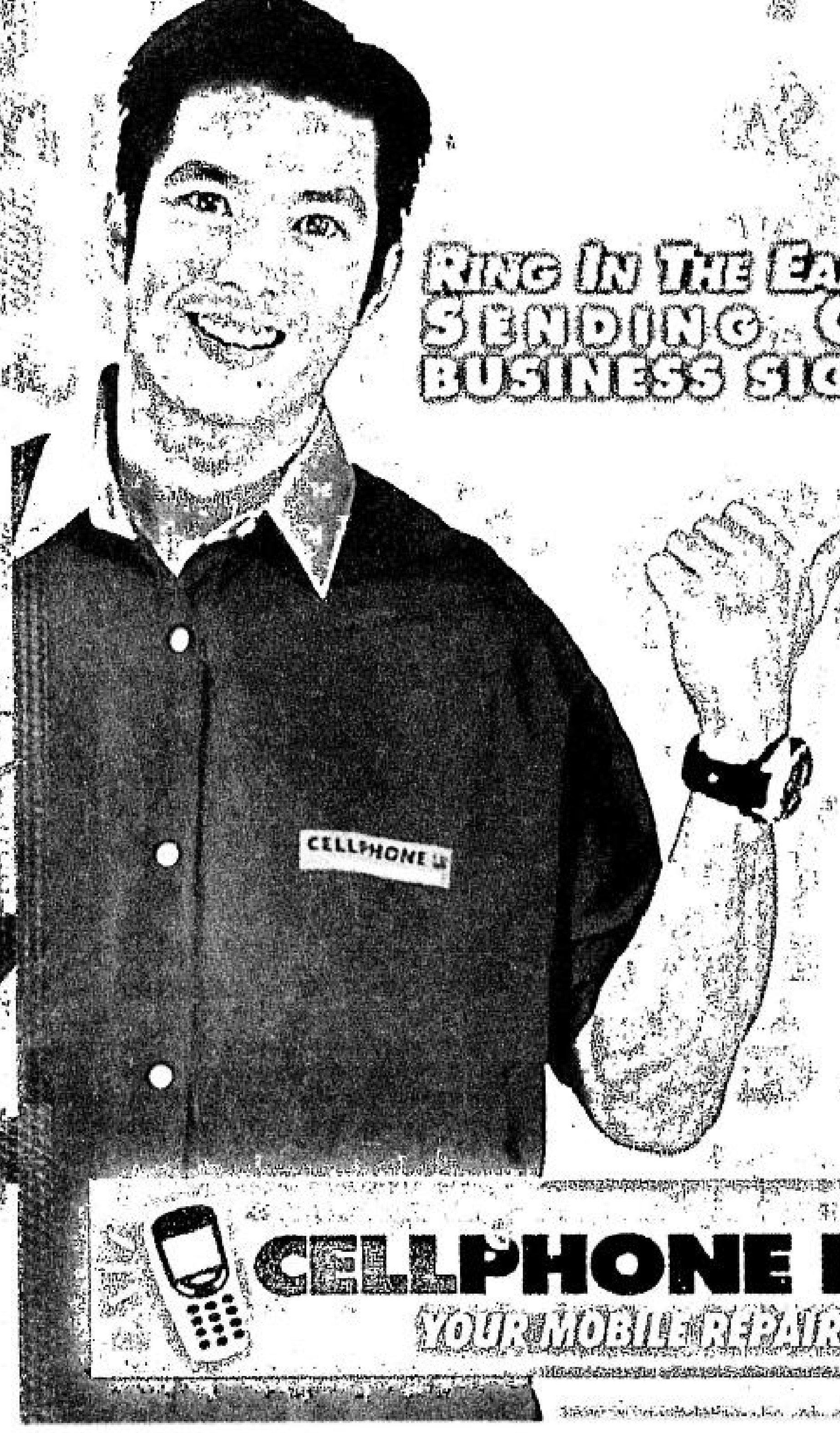

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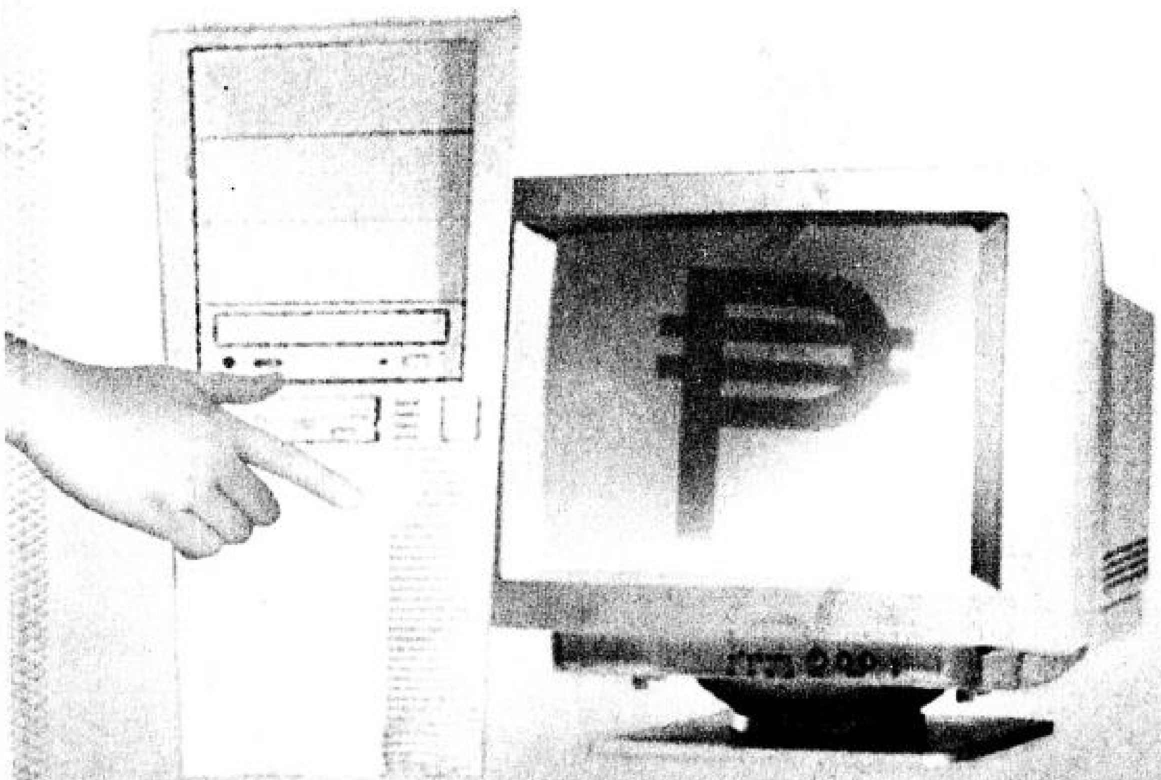

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Aries Espinosa, Editor

Popeyes offers a 'mardi gras' for flavor seekers

TODAY'S customers are demanding full-flavored foods. This new wave of "flavor-seekers" doesn't just crave for the bland flavor of most fast food restaurants or the taste of herbs and spices in their food. These people don't want their food to burn their palates with extreme spiciness, either.

Today's flavor seekers, Filipinos in particular, want food that has a memorable taste, or as one flavor seeker puts it, food that "wakes up my taste buds."

For food that's not just spicy and flavorful, Popeyes Chicken and Biscuits opens a whole new world of exciting flavors to the Filipino palate—a world that only the "Cajun Style" of New Orleans can bring.

Popeyes Chicken and Biscuits, that world-famous favorite from the United States, finally opened at the ground floor of SM Southmall in Las Piñas and at the second floor of Robinsons Place in Pasig last December. And with that, Popeyes has brought all that delicious flavor of its fried chicken, along with its famous buttermilk biscuits and its wide range of delicious side dishes such as popcorn shrimp, cajun rice, cajun fries, and jambalaya.

The fun opening of the branches was a promise of things to come. Famous cartoon characters Popeye and Olive personally saw to it that chicken lovers and their entire families were there to sample the fun and flavor.

Entire families are now trooping inside the bright and cheerfully lit restaurants, making their choices from the large menu selection and enjoying what Popeyes is really famous for—its flavorful fried chicken. Rich in cajun heritage and bursting with a flavor that's been called a "mardi gras" for the mouth and a roller coaster for the senses, Popeyes chicken also comes in large pieces—eight cuts to a chicken (one less than the regular nine).

Almost 30 years ago, Al Copeland opened a quick-service restaurant in New Orleans serving flavorful chicken. Copeland knew that he needed a brand that would grab the attention of the food-conscious New Orleans public. In April 1976, Popeyes opened its first franchise restaurant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. With its flavorful chicken, mouthwatering seafood recipes, delicious buttermilk biscuits and a truly unique array of signature side items such as red beans and rice, cajun rice, cajun fries, and mashed potatoes with cajun gravy, Popeyes gained solid growth and popularity.

Since then, Popeyes has grown to around 1,600 restaurants in 40 states and 20 countries worldwide, including Korea, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom, Kuwait, Mexico, Panama, Honduras, Jamaica, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Guam, Thailand, Jordan and Iceland.

In 1999, Popeyes earned a gold award in the Top Chicken Chain segment. In 2000, Popeyes achieved a worldwide sales of about $1.2 billion, becoming the world's second-largest quick service chicken chain (in sales). In 2001, the chain earned a gold award in the customer service category of the Restaurants and Institutions Choice in Chains award.

The centerpiece of the Popeyes menu is its flavorful fried chicken. Other taste discoveries to be experienced include chicken strips, popcorn shrimp, cajun classics Jambalaya and Etouffees. Side dishes include red beans and rice, onion rings, and coleslaw. All are offered at prices that make it easy for the whole family to enjoy (a hearty individual combo, for instance, goes for as low as P65)

Popeyes flavor diners can choose among chicken combos and mix and match side dishes to create custom flavors. Kids, too, have their own special choices. And with Popeye himself to call the kids over to all the fun dining, along with Olive Oyle, Wimpy, Bluto and the rest of the gang, kids will find Popeyes a favorite fun place to come home to.

RMMI VISITS MUNTING TAHANAN

The chair and president of Rosehills Philippines recently established an outreach program for the abandoned, orphaned and street children called 'Jack Kidwiler and Rosehills CHILD (children's health, intellectual and life development) Program.' RMMI officers recently went to Bataan to donate cash, rice and canned goods to Munting Tahanan Apostolate Foundation Inc. to assist 17 children from Central Luzon. Shown (from left) is RMMI vide president Emir Tubayan with Munting Tahanan chaplain Fr. Edilbert Pomer, RMMI marketing manager Raquel Mendoza, architect Minnie Rocel, territory manager Mitz Galo and Munting Tahanan coordinator Carol.

CITYCOMS SCHOLARS TAKE A BREATHER

For more than a decade, the Cityland Computer Scholarship Program (CityComs) of Cityland Foundation has been opening horizons to deserving and qualified but under-privileged students in their pursuit of college education. Geared to educating the youth in computer knowledge and applications, the program has supported more than 300 students, most of whom are now well-placed in companies here and abroad. A thanksgiving fellowship was recently held in honor of new entrants. They were joined by current scholars in an afternoon of fun, games and surprises during a refreshing break from school work and routine.

Ford's new VPs

TERRY Emrick, president of Ford Philippines, announces the appointment of Michael S. Dario as vice president for purchasing and Joselito B. Turano as vice president for manufacturing.

Their appointment is part of Ford Motor Company's commitment to effectively train and transfer technology by giving responsibility for the business to local employees. Five out of seven senior executives in the company are Filipinos.

"The Ford Philippines team is very proud of Mike and Joey. Their expertise in their respective fields will be invaluable to our company," said Terry Emrick.

Michael Dario initially joined Ford Philippines as an assistant vice president for finance in June 1999, and later assumed the position of assistant vice president for production purchasing in November 2000. As vice president for purchasing, his primary responsibility is developing the regional parts strategy for products for Ford's Asean program. He assumed his current role in April 2001.

Dario holds a Masters in Business Administration degree from New York University's Stern School of Business. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Management Economics from Ateneo de Manila University in 1988.

Turano joined Ford Philippines in December 1998 as an assistant vice president for manufacturing-trim, chassis and final line. A year later he took over as assistant vice president for materials planning and logistics.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering degree from Colegio de San Juan de Letran. He has 10 years experience in the automotive industry.

Ford Motor Co. Philippines is a wholly owned Ford subsidiary located in Greenfield Automotive Park in Santa Rosa, Laguna. Its P4-billion plant currently produces the Ford Lynx passenger car and the Ford Ranger pick-up truck.

Generation E
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A+

GENERATION E SPOKESPERSON

Mead Johnson Philippines, makers of Enfagrow and Enfakid, signs up famous TV personality Christine Jacob as the spokesperson for Generation E. The Generation E campaign is about empowering moms to equip their children with the necessary tools to advance in a competitive and challenging world. Generation E children are endearing, exceptional, extra-smart and nourished by Mead Johnson's DHA brain-building milk formulas. As a Generation E spokesperson, Christine will be espousing brain development techniques and brain-building nutrition. Shown are (from left) Anelle Forbes, senior product manager; Nikko Acosta, category manager; Christine Jacob; Leni Olmedo, group product manager, and Tricia Duavit, product manager.

Finex pre-Valentine event set

THE FINANCIAL Executives Institute of the Philippines (Finex), the country's leading organization of financial executives, will be holding a pre-Valentine event "Finex Valentine 2002" on Feb. 8. This was announced jointly by Al Joaquin and Lolet Mangilit, this year's Finex Valentine sub-committee chair and special projects overall chair, respectively. Comedian Leonard Obal will provide the entertainment and the Flintstones and the Gang provides music from the golden era of the '60s to the '80s. Tickets are available at P600 each. For inquiries, call the Finex secretariat care of Sylvia M. Refuerzo at 811-4052, 811-4184 and 811-4186 or e-mail at smrefuerzo@finex.org.ph.

Rotary club sets student tilt

THE ROTARY Club of Makati-Salcedo announces its nationwide quiz competition from Feb. 4 to 6 at Southville Foreign Colleges at BF International, Las Piñas City. The contest Global Dimensions Olympiad is open to 4th year high school students interested in social studies and global education. The Olympiad covers such topics as knowledge of world leaders and famous figures, history, geography, and demographics. For inquiries, call Joyce, Alexa or Dianne at 820-5952, 820-9181, 825-5147, or at 0919-6324520, or visit Southville's website at www.sville.edu.ph/college/ or e-mail sisfu@sville.edu.ph.

PDA, Colgate spearhead 52nd dental health week

THE PHILIPPINE Dental Association and Colgate will be celebrating the 52nd National Dental Health Week with the theme "Ngiting Busilak ng Kabataan, Sandigan ng Pambansang Katatagan."

The staging of this year's National Dental Health Week is a reaffirmation of Colgate and the PDA's shared commitment to better oral health for more Filipinos.

The celebration will kick off with the Alay Parada motorcade and parade at the Luneta Grandstand on Feb. 3. An estimated 8,000 dentists and dental students from various dental schools, as well as the general public, are expected to attend.

Other activities lined up for the week include free dental check ups, indigency clinics, a theme slogan contest, a healthy smile contest and the PDA open house and exhibit. Colgate special oral care promo packs are also offered in leading supermarkets.

The National Dental Health Week happens from Feb. 3 to 9.

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GOLDILOCKS FOR LESS FORTUNATE KIDS

Goldilocks Bakeshop handed over P100,000 as donation to the GMA Foundation Inc. in its 'Bitbit Alay Christmas Banner'. The donation goes directly to the terminally ill children in public hospitals, orphans, street children, children of prisoners, and kids from church-based institutions. Shown from left are Sali Sauco, marketing manager for bakeshop and corporate programs, Pinky T. Yee, marketing director, Trish A. Pagsalingan, OIC of marketing, publicity and promotions of GMA Foundation Inc. and Isahe Germentil, project staff of GMA Foundation.

'The Bleakest Wink' at CCP

CATCH popular radio talk show hosts Chico and Delamar in the "Bleakest Wink" game show live at the open air stage of the Central Colleges of the Philippines, Manila's center for balanced education, this Feb. 9, as the school celebrates its 54th foundation day, which kicks off Feb. 4. Along with Chico and Delamar, special guests include singer Robert Seña and TV personality Franco Laurel during the Mr and Ms Campus personality pageant which takes place after the game show.

CHS alumnae homecoming

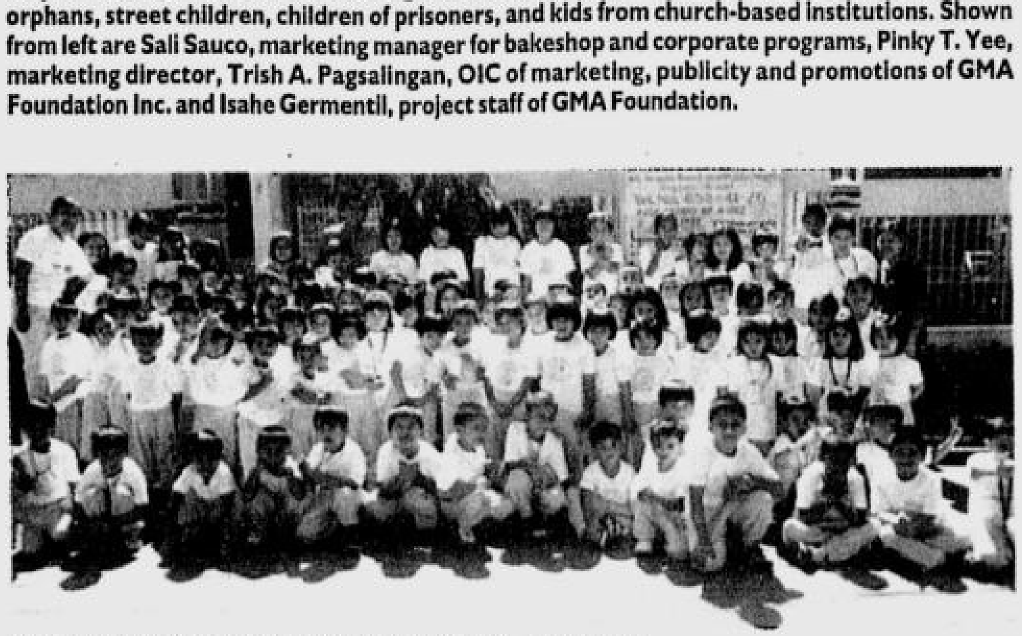
THE COLLEGE of the Holy Spirit High School class 1977, together with the CHS Alumnae Foundation, is hosting this year's homecoming on Feb. 3 at the school campus in Mendiola, Manila. Dubbed "The '70s: A Decade of Change", the festivities will start at 10 p.m. and ends at 5 p.m. All alumnae are invited. For more information, call Rose at the CHS Alumnae Office at 735-5986 or batch representatives.

Lights & Camera mag launched

PHOTO enthusiasts and professional photographers will now have a reference when it comes to photography as the Association of Photo Studio Owners of the Philippines (Apsop), spearheaded by its president Benjamin V. Rivera, launches the Lights & Camera Magazine on Feb. 7 at Café Sluggo. The 40-page magazine will then be released once every two months. The magazine is committed to provide its readers technical information, new products, personalities, photo galleries, tutorials, and even some stories that will inspire budding photographers. Together with the launching, Apsop will also hold its general membership meeting.

EAC at 10

THE 10th anniversary of East Asia College of Information Technology shall be commemorated with a week-long activity from Feb. 4 to 9, which is also its college week. The occasion is appropriately dubbed "East Asia @ 10: Tech-novation X-cellence in IT Education" as EAC takes pride in being one of only five IT institutions in NCR—from among 100 IT schools—to be given the most esteemed recognition as Center of Development for Excellence (CODE) in IT education by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). It is the fruit of the school's 10 years of educational partnership with SM Foundation, IBM Philippines Inc., FEU and Intelligent Wave Inc. The celebration starts at 8 a.m., Feb. 4, with a Mass at the college chapel followed by the blessing of new offices, ribbon-cutting ceremonies and the opening and tour of exhibit booths. The culminating activities will be the selection and coronation of Mr and Ms East Asia. A disco will mark the end of the week-long festivities.



'SONCASTLE FAIRE' ADAPTED BY GFA

An adaptation of world-renowned Gospel Light's musicale-play 'SonCastle Faire' was presented by students from Golden Faith Academy of Montevista Heights, Taytay, Rizal, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Taytay New Life Fellowship Center, E. Rodriguez Avenue, San Isidro, Taytay, Rizal. Focusing on the theme 'Using Our Talents to Serve the King of Kings', the GFA young performers will stepped back into a time of castles and kings in a big royal feast glorifying God.

Eucharistic seminar scheduled

FR. MANDY Tipones, SSS, provincial superior of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, announces the third LITE (Life in the Eucharist) seminar for married Catholics in collaboration with the Provincialate LITES team of the Apostles of the Holy Eucharist community. LITES aims to empower Catholics to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Eucharistic Mystery. Marriage Encounter and Couples for Christ communities, and other lay communities, are encouraged to attend. The seminar is scheduled on Feb. 9 and 10 at the Blessed Sacrament Provincial House at 20 Sunnyside Street, Quezon City, beside the Quezon City Sports Club. For details, call Michelle at 723-5945; Ogie or Delia Rueda at 740-0743; Rosie Belda at 242-8901; Neneng Jalandoon at 715-0951, and Lhil Mandap at 251-1972.

Communicators as arbiters of change

From page B8

that shakes up our old beliefs. As communicators, you would have to learn how to work in an increasingly multi cultural and multi-lingual milieu. Remember that what brought about the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001 and shook up the world economy was the kind of belief system that still sees the world in terms of "them" and "us."

We are all accountable for the world and all our co-inhabitants in it.

This world is the only one we have, amazingly tough but increasingly threatened and vulnerable. I do not limit our accountability to the issue of the physical environment. The responsibility extends to the political, cultural and economic realms.

As the cartoon character Pogo said, "We have seen the enemy and it is us." We have to take care of us. We are them. This is not only a message to be communicated, it is a conviction you and I have to defend and live by. The more educated we are, the more able, the more privileged, then the more accountable to a better life for all. No passing the buck allowed.

Sweeping external changes require equally major internal changes in nations and people.

You as communicators are the arbiters of change, its heralds and facilitators.

In essence, you will play a more critical role in a new world where complex interests and viewpoints have to be harmonized, and booming populations have to share increasingly finite resources.

Change rides on powerful horses and values give them proper rein, ideally loose enough to draw their full strength, and tight enough to signal direction and pacing. Communication is the discipline and artistry that bond rider and stallions in one fluid and flawless motion—to a destination of our own choosing.

You hold it in your hand . . . You choose how to convey it .

Use your words wisely. Use them to protect. Use them to tell the truth Use them to benefit others. Use them to benefit yourself, yes, but not at the expense of others...

This is where your power lies! In a changing world like ours, I would think that NOW—more than ever—the power of communication lies in YOU.

Use it bravely to build a new and better world, or use your power wrongly to destroy it. It's your decision.

In an age of disruptive change, communicators like you are not only the arbiters of change, but also the interpreters of the new world and the herald of our tomorrow. *(This is a condensed version of the author's speech delivered during the IABC conference held last Tuesday.)*

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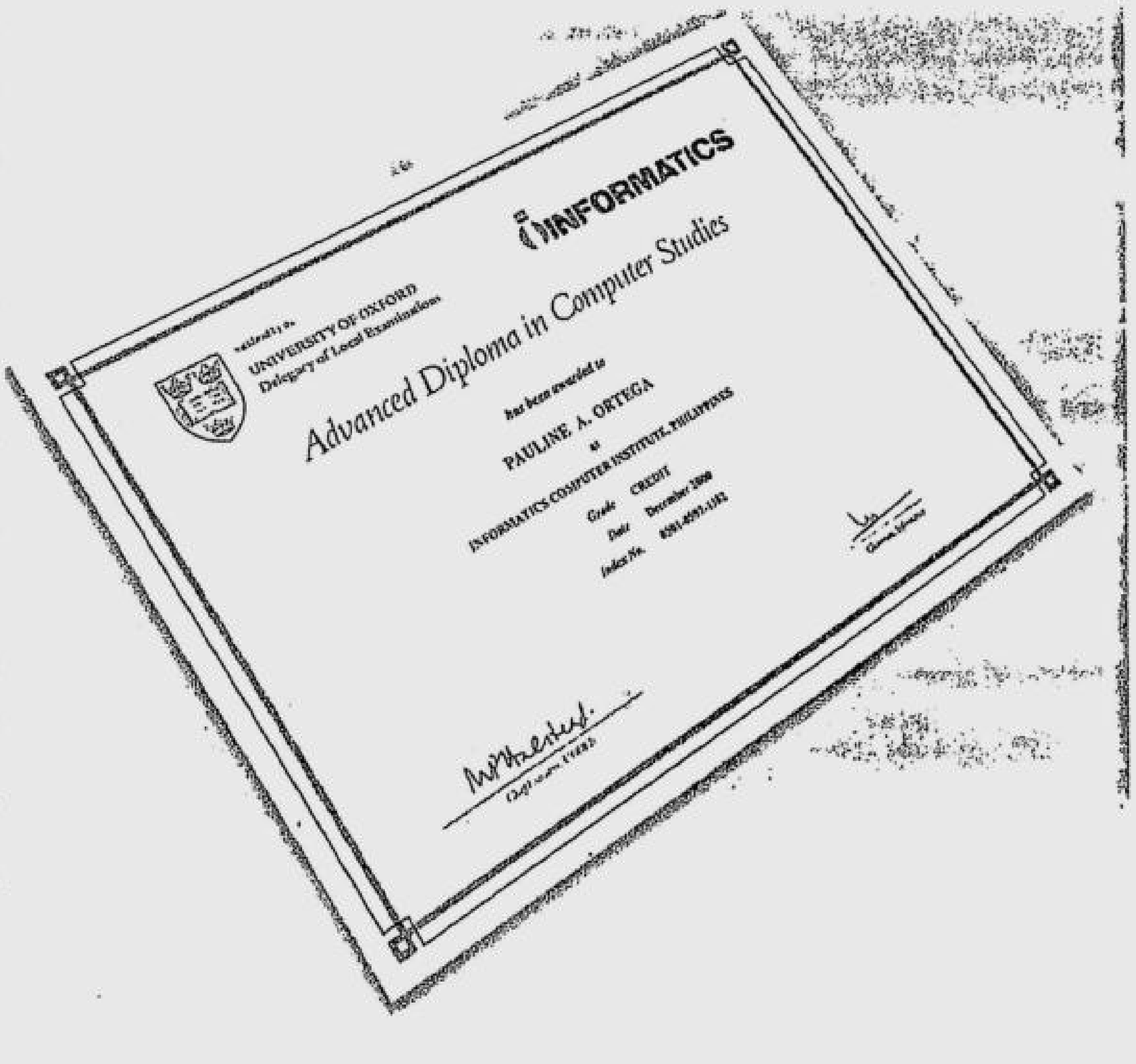

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Communicators as arbiters of change

By Jaime Zobel de Ayala

THE CHINESE New Year, the "Year of the Horse," doesn't quite begin until about two weeks from now, so it might still be timely to confess that when I was very young, I took seriously the writing of New Year's resolutions.

They were promises to myself, many of which I couldn't keep; but they did me a lot of good as they prevented me from drifting too far from my goals, and kept me away from mischief.

For the past several years, our nation has gone through so many unforeseen upheavals, so many disruptions and discouragement, one could feel a creeping loss of confidence in ourselves.

I would like to suggest a New Year's resolution, for myself and for all our countrymen.

Here is my suggested resolution:

"From this year onwards, we will not be fazed by all the changes happening in our midst, but will welcome change as a positive force for renewal and an opportunity to spring forward in our development.

"We will not feel bludgeoned or cornered, helpless and hapless, by change but will actually welcome it as a reinvigorating whiff of fresh air, and feel strengthened and refreshed by it, ready for battle.

"We will refuse to join the ranks of the victims and vanquished, and look at change in the eye and dare it to block our new strategies and clever moves, and show it that we are made of sterner stuff.

"From this year onwards, we will not cower in anticipation and fear of change, but will instead initiate it and direct it, become its prime mover, so that we may shape our destiny and dictate the future we want for our children and the children after them."

Big, brave words, I must admit, fighting words, considering our present situation. But aren't they better than the whining, blaming and complaining that we hear all around?

It's been said over and over that we live in a world where the only constant is change. And change is always accompanied by discomfort and dissonance, a sense of being thrown out of kilter.

Disruption, disruptive change, is part of the theme of this conference. How, appropriate indeed, for change, if it is anywhere significant, for better or worse, is always disruptive. Why call it an earthquake if the ground does not tremble?

People say that there is too much instability, too much turmoil and change. We have not recovered from one upheaval and here comes the next. We have not regained our bearings, plugged the holes in our equanimity, and here comes one more typhoon.

When you think of it, the problem is really not too much and too frequent changes. The problem is, we are not changing at all.

Sure, there are too many things happening that unsettle us, discourage us, freak us out. But they are just new versions of the old problems, new variations of the old mistakes, new arreglos of an old tune. Our tragedy is we are not changing enough, not as much as we should in a rapidly changing world.

Like it or not, recognize it or not, it's a new world out there. It is a changed world and changing still by the minute. But rather than change with it, we go into prolonged denial. We still go by the old inflexible policies, live by the old derelict structures, and follow the old unworkable strategies long overtaken by change.

ZOBEL

'From this year onwards, we will not cower in anticipation and fear of change'

Progressive countries have retooled their economies and political systems; dynamic corporations have adopted new ways of producing, sourcing and marketing their products; enlightened societies have banished the prejudices and inequities that shackled their people.

And here we are—not us alone to be sure but other laggard societies like ours—choosing the same self-serving leaders, canonizing showbiz and media impresarios, and paying homage and adulation to the same people who in the not-too-distant-past deceived us.

In the process, we have kept the same political structures, retained the same economic game plan, and stuck to the same thinking and behavior that were ineffectual yesterday, outmoded today and disastrous tomorrow.

If we must speak of the inevitability and desirability of change, we must also talk of the need for constancy. As things change, other things must remain constant or uncompromised.

To me the constant elements in our society must be the values that we all hold dear and unassailable.

These values keep us together, define us to ourselves and to others, and preserve our sense of right and wrong, reason and order.

I submit that we become disorganized, and consequently poor, when our values begin to weaken or unravel, and we lose sight of things that we originally held to be supremely important and irreplaceable.

Of these values, I would think there are three that we must preserve at all cost for they lie at the core of our being.

Three values

First, our faith or our deep spiritual sense. It is our faith, whatever church we go to, that has given us resiliency, compassion and strength amid so much poverty, inequality and plain bad luck.

It has given us our sense of humor, our friendliness and hospitality. Our faith creates our nurturing, caring and family-centered culture. Despite our troubles, we are the happiest people in Asia, while the countries with the most wealth are among the least happy.

Second, our passion for learning. Parents will scrimp and save, sacrifice everything, willingly mortgage property or go into debt to give their children the best education they could afford.

Third, our commitment to freedom, and its attendant ideals of equality, openness and tolerance. With freedom, we have a fertile soil for our innate artistry and creativity.

Our values provide the framework and the context upon which change could occur, channeling and directing its energies, tempering the violence inherent in change. Our values keep the disruption of change healthy and constructive so that society, or the individual, is not entirely overwhelmed and does not fight back in wayward violence.

Our values will help us choose the right things, do right by our constituencies and people who trust in us, and prevent us from being seduced by the false priests and acolytes of greed, power and popularity.

How does communication help us in dealing with the disruptions and turbulence that change brings to our economy, our politics and our lives?

You have to anticipate the next generation of technologies because they can swiftly make obsolete your present skills, your deliverables to your audiences or clients, and the way you work with employers and colleagues.

You have to be smarter, quicker and more cost-effective and more value-adding to the clients' businesses. Altered expectations and relationships among stakeholder will need new approaches for credibility and harmony.

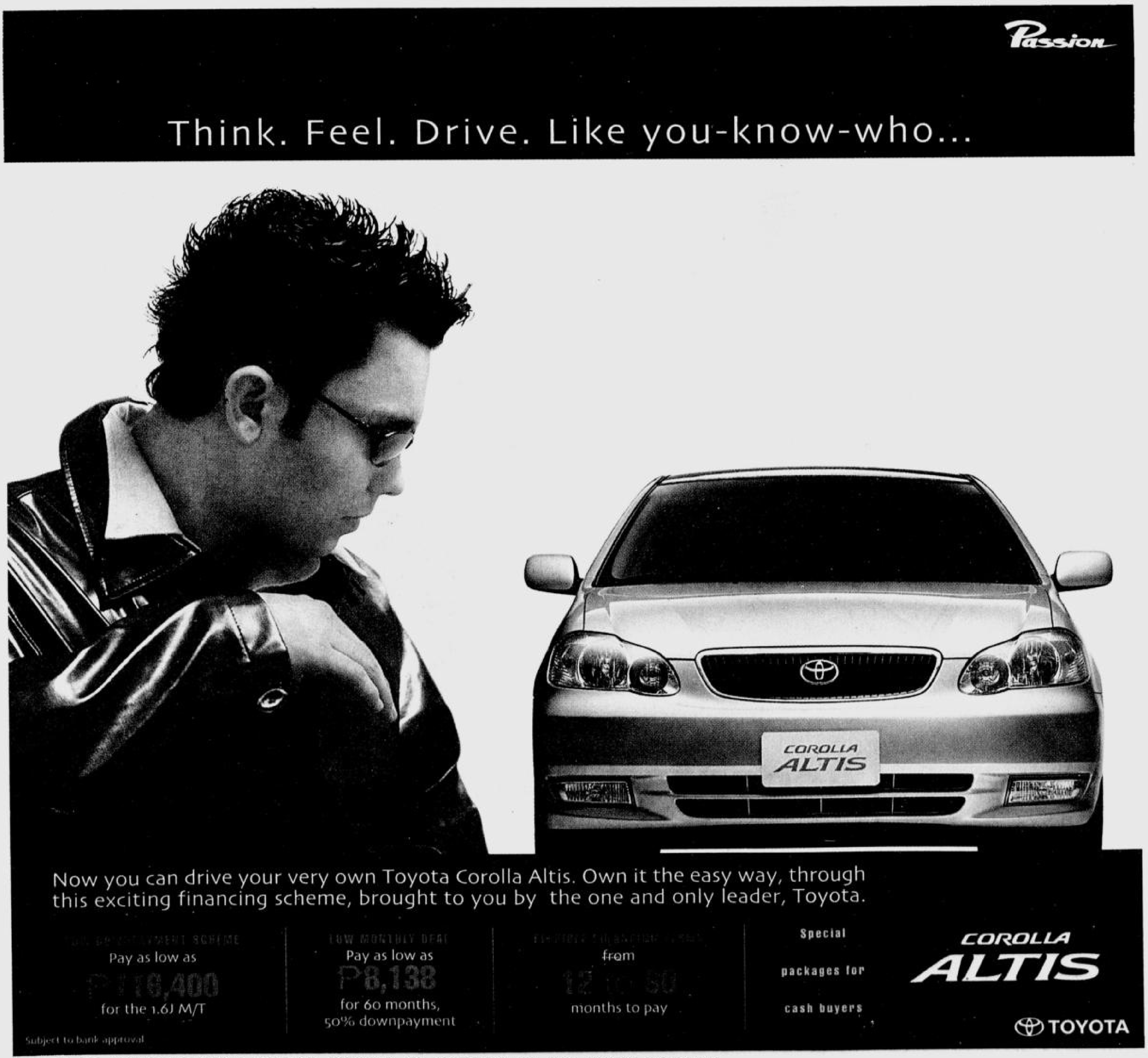
Traditional categorization of communicators and audiences is no longer useful because of multiple roles and motivations. For instance, politicians have become businessmen, businessmen have become politicians; media personalities have become senators, and senators have become media personalities.

Some cops are crooks, some soldiers are rebels, and some spiritual leaders allegedly have unexplained undisclosed wealth. So when you communicate, there is a very high level of cynicism, and communicators could lose the trust of the young who are very sensitive to truth and authenticity.

The world has embraced diversity and communicators must champion it.

This is powerful communication

COMMUNICATORS/B7



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Promo period: Feb. 1- 28, 2002

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0209, Series of 2002

JOB MARKET ©
NATIONAL EDITION

JGC PHILIPPINES, INC.

Excellence...our Practice...our Commitment

ISO 9001 UKAS QUALITY MANAGEMENT 005

JGC Philippines, Inc. (JPHIL) is one of the leaders in the local and international engineering field. A leading subsidiary of JGC Corporation of Japan, it has new growth goals and a vision to become one of the dynamic Engineering-Procurement-Construction (EPC) companies in the industry. JGC Philippines has the following openings:

BOILER ENGINEER (Code: BE)

- Male / Female; 27 to 32 years old;
- Graduate of BS Mechanical or BS Chemical Engineering course, preferably with license;
- Minimum of 5 years work experience in either combination of Basic Design, Mechanical Design, Manufacturing, Inspection, Testing and operation of various types of Boilers for power and refinery plants;
- Work experience in package type job including review of ITB documents, proposals / estimation work, preparation of specification, requisition, review of vendor documents and coordination work with vendor, client and other disciplines;
- Knowledgeable in computer software like Microsoft Word, Excel and AutoCAD Release 14 or 2000;
- Must be willing to be assigned to project sites.

LEAD ARCHITECT (Code: LA)

- Between 35-40 years old. Maximum of 45 years of age;
- Graduate of a 5 year engineering course preferably in architecture course;
- More than 10 years exposure in Industrial Buildings (for substation and control building). Must be able to prepare Architectural drawings and specifications;
- Preferably with previous work experience in an American or European Oil industry engineering company, and more than three years experience of building engineering and construction work in the Middle East countries;
- With management and coordination capability with various foreign oil companies and building engineering and construction contractors;
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and may be in AutoCAD;
- Must be willing to be assigned to project sites.

SENIOR COMMUNICATION ENGINEER (Code: SCE)

- Responsible for the preparation of communication system philosophy / basis, system study and other key communication system layout such as PABX, Public Address, CCTV, Radio Communications systems, Interphone Systems and Sound Powered Telephone System. Also responsible for the preparation of communications equipment specification / data sheets, estimation basis, technical evaluation, coordination and vendor data review;
- 35 years old and above;
- Graduate of a 5 year Engineering course preferably in Electronics and Communication Engineering;
- Minimum of eight (8) years in communication system works, two (2) years of which shall be in front end engineering and proposal / estimation works or 2 (two) years in field engineering works preferably gained from oil and gas plants;
- Previous work experience which includes constructions, commissioning and testing of communication systems of oil and gas plants, an advantage;
- Computer literate in Windows and MS Office. Familiar with local and international communication system codes, standards and regulations.

SENIOR PIPING ENGINEERS/PIPING ENGINEERS (Code: SPE/PPE)

- Graduate of any 5 year course preferably in Mechanical Engineering;
- At least 5-10 years related work experience in Piping Specification, Design Layout, Stress Analysis, Material-Take-Off 3D CAD Modeling and Vendor Document Review in Oil and Gas Projects, 3 years of which of which must be in supervisory capacity,
- Ability to operate AutoCAD and Microstations, and PDS Intergraph 3D for piping design specification;
- Ability to read, analyze and interpret common, technical information, contracts reports and instructions.

INSTRUMENT AND CONTROL ENGINEERS (Code: I&CE)

- Graduate of 5 years in Chemical, Electronics & Communications, Electrical, Mechanical or Instrumentation & Control Engineering;
- At least 4 years work experience in Instrumentation engineering design work with relevant site exposure;
- Proficient in MS Office (Word & Excel), Visual Basic and other Programming Language with 2D and 3D CAD an advantage.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (Code: EE)

- Graduate of BS Electrical Engineering;
- Minimum of 5 years experience in the Electrical Design of oil refinery and chemical plants;
- Proficiency in AutoCAD 14 is a must and with Microstation skills an advantage;
- With knowledge in international codes and standards: IEC, BS, NEMA, ANSI and ARAMCO.

LEAD BUILDING ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (Code: LBEE)

- Between 35 – 45 years old;
- Graduate of BS Electrical or Instrumentation & Control Engineering course;
- More than 10 years exposure in Electrical works on Industrial buildings (for substation and control building) such as lighting, building power circuit, telecom and fire alarm systems.

LEAD BUILDING ENGINEERS (Code: LBE)

- Between 35 – 45 years old;
- Graduate of BS Civil Engineering or Architecture course;
- More than 10 years exposure in Industrial Building (for substation and control building).

CADET ENGINEERS (Code: CE)

- Graduates of Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, Chemical, Electronics & Communication, Instrumentation & Control and Metallurgical Engineering
- Graduates of year 2000, 2001 and 2002
- With or without professional license.

Applicants must have excellent written and oral communications skills and must be computer literate.

Competitive compensation and fringe benefits awaits qualified applicants:

Salary ranges from P11,000.00 to P 30,000.00 for all positions above except for Cadet Engineers.

SOME BENEFITS and PRIVILEGES:

- Allowances
- Commuter Service
- Dormitory Availment
- Leaves Benefits
- Life Insurance
- Loans
- Hospitalization & Medical
- Rest House
- Retirement
- Sports Club

For applicants responding through our e-mail please indicate your name and the position you are interested to apply for in the "SUBJECT" portion for easy identification.

Please submit or send your comprehensive resume with recent 2x2 photo and appropriate CODE to:

Human Resource Development Department,
JGC Philippines, Inc.
2109 Prime St., Madrigal Business Park ,
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. 8766000 loc 10313, E-mail: hrd@jgc.com.ph

For experienced engineers, please send your e-resume to:
nancy.matundan@jgc.com.ph

JOB OPPORTUNITY

A prestigious and leading courier company in the Philippines is in need of

CUSTOMER ASSOCIATES

for immediate hiring.

Applicants must be:

- Male
- 20 to 25 years old
- Customer Service Oriented
- Neat
- Courteous
- Graduate of any 4-year degree course
- Can drive 2- and 4-wheel vehicles
- Possesses a Professional Driver's License with 123 restriction code
- Preferably single

All interested and qualified applicants have to mail their comprehensive resumé with current NBI Clearance to:

Administrative Department
P.O. Box 7674, Pasay City

SALES MANAGER

A medium-sized company 25 yrs. in business needs a Sales Manager. Must not be more than 40 yrs. old. Mail detailed Biodata, transcript of school records and recent photo to: Ms. Lalen Alva, M.C.P.O. Box 1937, 1259 Makati City.

WANTED

An **American** Company is in need of a hardworking & dynamic individuals

- **Operation Manager**
- **Marketing Manager**
- **Sales Managers**
- **Sales Representatives**
- **Executive Secretary**

HIGH COMPENSATION AWAITS INTERESTED PARTIES.

- Interested parties may proceed in business attire at 32-B Rufino Pacific Tower, Ayala Ave., Makati City.

- For an interview on Wednesday, February 6, 2002 at 2:00 to 4:00 PM.

For more information you may Call Tel. No. 8111139, 8992052 Mr. Randy Gadiaware.

WANTED:

SALES & MARKETING TRAINEE/S
MESSENGER / LIAISON TRAINEE/S
(Possible permanent employment)

Qualifications:
1) Male or Female; 2) Single or married; 3) College graduate or graduating; 4) With working experience particularly in Sales & Marketing; 5) 19 to 30 years old

Send application with Tel. No. to:

P.O. Box No. 343 Greenhills Post Office
Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Attention: Sales & Marketing Department

GOETHE-INSTITUT MANILA

The Goethe-Institut Manila is looking for an

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Starting 01 April 2002
- With knowledge of English, German and Pilipino
- With experience in accounting and administration
- Computer literate

Please send your application with photo to

The Director
Goethe-Institut
P.O. Box 2883
1068 Manila
e-mail: goethedi@meridiantelekoms.net

WANTED

SENIOR SALES ENGINEER

QUALIFICATIONS:

- B.S.E.E. GRADUATE, PREFERABLE E.E. LICENSE;
- WITH MINIMUM 5 YRS. EXPERIENCE IN SALES OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY;
- AGE 30 TO 40 YRS. OLD WITH GOOD HEALTH AND MORAL CHARACTER;
- PREFFERABLY OWNED CAR; WILL PROVIDE COMMENSURATE SALARY & COMMISSION

PLEASE CONTACT WESTRADE, TELS.: 634-8476 / 632-7519 ATTN. JOJO / JASON PENULIAR FOR SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL INTERVIEW, BRING UPDATED BIO-DATA

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Earn as much as P150,000 per month!

We at Brittany Corporation are looking for salespeople to make up our Direct Marketing Group for our prime properties in the Greater Manila Area. With our unmatched developer support, we provide you with high potential earnings, plus special incentives like training and local and foreign travel.

If you are a college graduate of a prestigious school and driven to excel, with a wide network of contacts among professionals and an experience in high-end projects, then bring your resume and a recent 2X2 photo and join us for coffee on February 5 or 6, from 9am to 12nn and 1:30pm to 4pm, at the Executive Lounge, Deck, Medical Plaza Makati, Amorsolo cor. Dela Rosa Sts., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Or call 850-3359/850-6986 and e-mail mktg@brittany.com.ph

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CORPORATION

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- ➢ GREENCARD PAID
- ➢ TRANSPORTATION AND TEMPORARY HOUSING PAID
- ➢ Review Classes for CGFNS, TOEFL & TSE

Please come for Final interview and bring your resumé with job description and areas of specialty, diploma & transcript, CGFNS, TOEFL, TSE Certificates (if any) at:

MANILA: Business Center Board Room
EDSA-Shangrila Hotel
Mandaluyong City
Feb. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13, 2002
8 AM - 4:30 PM

You may also send your documents to:

Mr. Jerry N. Dizon
MED-EMPLOY
U.S.A. and International

Medical Recruitment
Manila Area
#34 E. Marathon St.
cor. Tomas Morato, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 3713623/4145769

Cebu - Contact Fara (0919-2983961)
Cebu Plaza Hotel
January 27, 28 & 29, 2002

Tagbilaran, Bohol - Contact Fara
(0919-2983961)
Metro Centre Hotel
January 31, Feb 1, 2, 3 & 4, 2002

Central Luzon Area
#756 Velasquez Avenue,
San Francisco, Mabalacat,
Pampanga 2010
Tel: No. (045) 331-7611
Fax (045) 331-6150
Cell Nos. 0919-6475893/0917-8360788
E-mail: jerlin@datelnet.net

Philippine Children's Fund of America
#30 Don Melitón Ave., Clark Friendship Gate,
Angeles City, Pampanga 2009

"We are a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational, medical, health and nutritional programs to thousands of needy children all over the Philippines while addressing community empowerment at the locale."

We are in need of:

- ☐ **(2) Fund Development Officers**
  Goal-oriented, aggressive marketing person, to push innovative concepts of convergence and high level networking with various sector
- ☐ **Community Dev't. Officers**
  With extensive background in cooperatives, or micro credit program, preferably with direct experience on Early Child Care and Dev't.

All applicants must be willing to relocate in Clark, Angeles City. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé/curriculum vitae to Mr. Erik D. Gomez, Exec. Director at the above address or fax at (045) 893-0880.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

EXECUTIVE SALES SECRETARY

- Single, Female, with pleasing personality
- At least 25 years old
- Minimum of 5 years work experience as sales office secretary
- Computer literate (word/excel)
- Can type & operate fax machine
- Can comprehend & follow instructions
- Hardworking

Bring photo & biodata
Apply at:

292 Jose Abad Santos,
Little Baguio, San Juan

NEO CYBER ENVIRO, INC

7/F Liberty Center, 104 H.V. dela Costa St., Salcedo, Makati City.
Tel: 884-6003 or 845-2782 to 85 Fax: 845-2786
E-mail: neocyberinc@yahoo.com

WANTED

GAME CHARACTER ILLUSTRATOR & 3D CHARACTER DESIGNER

SUBJECTS: INEXPERIENCED, ENTRY-LEVEL PROFESSIONALS, PROFESSIONALS & PM
REQUIREMENTS: RESUME, PORTFOLIOS, AND INTERVIEW

EDUCATOR

SUBJECTS EXPERIENCE FOR MORE THAN FOUR (4)YEARS GRADUATE OF FOUR (4) YEARS EDUCATIONAL COURSE UNIVERSITY
REQUIREMENTS: RESUME, AND INTERVIEW FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in the Philippines

is in need of a qualified individual for the position of

Secretary/Resource Center Coordinator

Under the direct supervision and overall guidance of the UNAIDS Country Programme Advisor (CPA), the Secretary/Resource Center Coordinator will be responsible for providing administrative and secretarial support to the UNAIDS office, particularly in the effective management of its day-to-day operations. This includes the following tasks:

1. Update and maintain the UNAIDS Resource Center, Inventory Database of HIV/AIDS activities and other office files and documents.
2. Collect and disseminate information and assist agencies and individuals in gathering data related to HIV/AIDS,
3. Arrange schedules and activities of the UNAIDS office, including travel and logistics arrangements for training, meetings, seminars and other events.
4. Coordinate with Administrative and Finance personnel for the administrative and financial needs of the office.
5. Monitor office expenditures and provide updated financial statements on a monthly basis.
6. Provide guidance to volunteer staff of the UNAIDS office.
7. Attend meetings as requested by the CPA and/or Programme Assistant (PA).
8. Take note of messages and/or queries, and in the absence of the CPA and PA, take action as appropriate and necessary, e.g., answering correspondence, e-mail, etc.
9. Draft and prepare routine correspondence.
10. Perform other functions assigned by the CPA.

DUTY STATION: Makati City

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduate of 4-year course; at least 2 years experience in similar functions; good written and verbal command of English; can compose business correspondence; computer literate in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint as well as internet and email use; detail-oriented; can work with minimal supervision, excellent inter-personal skills.

Application forms are available from the UNAIDS Office or by e-mail from: unaids.ph@undp.org

Qualified candidates should send their applications with a cover letter not later than February 18, 2002 to:

Country Programme Advisor
UNAIDS Philippines
2/F NEDA sa Makati Bldg, 106 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village 1229, Makati City

Or email to arthur.jaucian@undp.org

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

As the main advocate for global action on HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS leads, strengthens and supports an expanded response aimed at preventing transmission of HIV/, facilitating the provision of care and support, reducing the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV/AIDS, and alleviating the impact of the epidemic.

AMERICA'S FIRST and **WORLD'S FINEST** SEALING DEVICES & POLYMER COMPOSITE manufacturer, is in immediate need of applicants for our business expansion

SALES ENGINEERS

QUALIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

- ➢ AGGRESSIVE, HARDWORKING & DYNAMIC INDIVIDUALS FEMALE OR MALE W/ PLEASING PERSONALITY W/ HEIGHT 5'2" & UP
- ➢ AGE RANGE 20-30 YEARS OLD, SINGLE
- ➢ ANY ENGINEERING GRADUATES
- ➢ WITH OF WITHOUT SALES EXPERIENCE
- ➢ CAN WORK INDEPENDENTLY

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE RESIDENTS OF SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA, NAVOTAS, MANILA, MALABON, STA ROSA / CABUYAO / CANLUBANG LAGUNA, DASMARINAS CAVITE. BATANGAS, CEBU, ILOILO, BACOLOD, CAGAYAN DE ORO

BENEFITS:
- BASIC SALARY PLUS COMMISSION
- MONTHLY INCENTIVES AWARDS OF MERCHANDISES
- WITH TRIP ABROAD INCENTIVES

Qualified applicants may apply in person, acceptance of any applicants in person is from 9:00am-4:00 pm or send resume, recent 2x2 photo, NBI clearance and transcript of records to:

ADTECH Phils. Corp.
1703 Antel Global Corporate Center, Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center Pasig City
Telephone # 638-7496 to 97 and look for Ms. Anna

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EARN WHILE YOU LEARN!!!

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KENDEIGH INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

A Philippine based international company on its expansion program invites qualified and interested applicants for the post below:

BUSINESS MANAGERS

- 21 years old and above
- Male or Female
- Aggressive, analytical and can work under pressure
- Fluent in English and Chinese (is an advantage)
- Self motivated and can work with minimum supervision
- A graduate of any reputable university with 4-year course (preferably a graduate of Ateneo, La Salle, UP and UST)

We provide:
- Intensive training
- On-the-job training
- Management training

We offer:
- Five figure monthly remuneration
- Incentives and Awards
- Commission in US $ Dollars
- Overseas Holiday
- Managerial Promotion

If you feel you have the above criteria and drive to succeed

Apply at:
11th Floor, THE PEAK TOWER BUILDING
107 L.P. Leviste Street, Brgy. Bel-Air, Salcedo Village
Makati City
From 4th to 8th day of February 2002
10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

EDITORIAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

(for Legazpi Bureau)

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism, Mass Communication or English
- 2 years experience as an editorial assistant or jobs leading to it
- Computer skills, Interviewing skills, Layouting skills, Writing skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2/F Engineering Building, MWSS Compound
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. +632 9265233; +632 4333446
Telefax Nos. +632 9265234; +632 4333444

INVITATION FOR QUALIFICATION AND BID

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payment under the contract for which this Invitation for qualification and Bid is issued.

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission-Project Management Office (PRRC-PMO) is inviting all CONTRACTORS to apply for Qualification and Bid for the following project:

Name of Project : Pasig River Linear Park Package
Duration : 120 Calendar Days

Contract Package	Area	Location	Project Description
a. San Agustin Linear Park	3,645.00 m²	San Agustin St. near Carlos Palanca St. (between Ayala Bridge and Quezon Bridge), Manila	Community Park and Promenade
b. Quinta Market Linear Park	2,500.00 m2	Basan St. near Carlos Palanca St. (underneath Quezon Bridge) Quiapo, Manila	Community Park and Promenade
c. Sta. Ana Market Linear Park	1,504.60 m2	near Plaza Felipe Calderon, Sta. Ana, Manila	Community Park and Promenade

Interested bidders will be required to submit their accomplished qualification documents and bid proposals at the same time in two (2) separate sealed envelopes. The envelope containing the bid will be kept in a sealed box which will not be opened until after the completion of the qualification evaluation and the list of the qualified bidder has been finalized. Only the bids of qualified bidders will be opened on the date of bid opening. The bids of disqualified bidders will be returned unopened.

Interested eligible contractors may obtain further information and secure the qualification and bid documents at the following address:

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
Project Management Office (PRRC-PMO)
2nd Floor Engineering Building
MWSS CMPD., Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. 433-3444 / 433-3446 / 926-5233 / 926-5234

A complete set of qualification and bid documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder from the above address starting **6-13 February 2002** upon submission of a letter of intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 7,500.00).

Site Inspection and Pre-Bid Conference is on **20 February 2002**, 10:00 a.m. at the 4th Floor Department Of Tourism (DOT) Auditorium, DOT Building, T.M. Kalaw, Manila. The accomplished qualification documents and the bid in two (2) separate sealed envelopes must be submitted to the PRRC-PMO on or before 1200 hours on **20 March 2002**. The date of bid opening will be announced later.

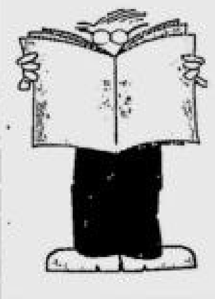
The bidders shall submit together with qualification documents a notarized sworn statement stating their project workload as of date of bidding, including newly awarded but not yet started contracts with corresponding contract amount.

All particulars relative to Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract shall be governed by the ADB Procurement Guidelines and other pertinent laws and regulations. The PRRC-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive minor informalities, or accept such bids which will be the most advantageous to the government. The decision of PRRC-BAC is final and binding.

(Sgd.) **BINGLE H.B. GUTIERREZ**
Executive Director

(PDI - Feb. 2, 3 & 10, 2002)

Where you find the best.



JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

The INSULAR LIFE Assurance Company, Ltd.

As we prepare for the greater demands of our business, we are inviting highly capable professionals who can make a difference and successfully take on the challenges of the job as

TRAINING SPECIALISTS

(for Alabang Head Office, North Luzon and North Mindanao Branch Offices)

Major accountabilities include:

- assisting in identifying the training needs of the company's agency force in the region;
- participating in the design, planning, and actual conduct of programs to address the basic and developmental needs of the agents;
- providing new inputs for the update of program contents and methodologies; and
- consciously monitoring the effectiveness of the programs conducted and their impact on overall sales performance.

Ideal candidates are those who have:

- a college degree in any Social Science or Business course;
- at least one (1) year work experience in training and development functions, or any comparable experience in sales and marketing work;
- excellent written/verbal communication skills and strong customer service orientation;
- keen interest and aptitude to fulfill the requirements of the life insurance basic training program for trainers; and
- willingness to go on frequent travels to field offices within the assigned region.

We offer an exciting and collaborative work environment, excellent development opportunities, and a compensation package matched with experience and competence.

Due to the urgency of the requirements, qualified applicants are encouraged to email their resumés, indicating the position as the subject, to careers@insular.com.ph or personally deliver or mail your resumés, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photos on or before February 9, 2002 to the address below:

Recruitment and Placement Section
INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
Level 8, IL Corporate Centre
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1770

Visit us at **www.insularlife.com.ph**

ATTENTION NURSES with CGFNS and TOEFL Certificates; Establish a career in the U.S., Green Card provided before leaving the Philippines.

We Provide:

1. Excellent salary: $35,000 - $55,000 per annum
2. Free airfare Manila to U.S.
3. Housing and stipend of $500.00 for the first month

Requirements:

1. Diploma and Transcript of Records (BSN)
2. CGFNS and TOEFL Certificates
3. Board Examination Result
4. Philippine License
5. Bio-data (includes work experience, certificate of seminars training, and dates of school attendance from elementary to graduation from BSN)

From the date of qualification, background check, CGFNS and TOEFL qualified, to the date you receive the Green Card can be as soon as 6 months to as long as 12 months.

Please send the above documents to:

New Innovative Technologies, Inc. (NITE)
P.O. Box 3076
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729
USA

NURSES!!!

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INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD IN
EDSA SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
Mandaluyong City
on February 7, 8, 9 & 10, 2002
From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please bring a copy of your
USRN License or your CGFNS Certificate

IPAMS U.S.A. IMMIGRANT VISA

INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

NURSES

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TO INCLUDE TESTING FEES FOR CGFNS, TOEFL/TWE, TSE, NCLEX, AND GUAM AIRFARE

Come meet with the Hospital's Representatives conducting Final Interviews on the following dates:

CEBU CITY at the Marriott Hotel:

February 10th - Acceptance of Applications
February 11th & 12th - Final Interviews

IPAMS office in MANILA:

February 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, & 19th

CHRISTUS Spohn Health System (CSHS) has been exploring new directions in health care in South Texas since 1905. Today CSHS is the premier provider of family health centers, the CHRISTUS Spohn Cancer Center and Heart Institute, a Hospice program and Home Care Services. CSHS's services cover 12 counties with a total population of more than 850,000 residents.

CHRISTUS St. Joseph Hospital, is located in Houston's revitalized Downtown District and has been serving Houston's diverse health care needs since 1887. Our services range from Women's Care and Cardiology, to Cancer Treatment and Orthopedics, and just about everything in between.

Being a part of the CHRISTUS Health System offers more than just technical excellence. We offer that excellence in a compassionate environment, created to minister not only to the sick in body, but the sick in mind and spirit as well. We seek to restore the whole person back to a place of complete physical, mental, and spiritual wellness.

Benefits: Start on the 1st day of employment for all full-time associates (employees). The CORE benefits include basic health coverage, term life insurance, long-term disability, and vision care. After 90 days, employee has the option of changing coverage to include other benefits MEDICAL, DENTAL, FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS, LIFE INSURANCE, DISABILITY, ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE (AD&D), RETIREMENT PLANS, EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE, CHILD CARE, PAID TIME OFF, EXTENDED ILLNESS BANK, CREDIT UNION, ASSOCIATE PARKING, ASSOCIATE DINING-DISCOUNTED MEALS

Nursing Opportunities: Nurses have a long, rich tradition of excellence in advancing the health and well-being of people throughout Houston and South Texas. **Christus Spohn and Christus St. Joseph are extremely proud of nurses and value their skills, talents and compassion.** We offer a variety of incentives and opportunities for career development and advancement

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In addition, we offer a culturally diverse environment with well-established **Filipino Communities.**

HealthStar International Inc., a major staffing company from *Houston, Texas* will be in town on February 11th to 19th, 2002 identifying nurses for its client *CHRISTUS Spohn in Corpus Christi & CHRISTUS St. Joseph Hospital in Houston*. Mr. Craig Gwinner of *HealthStar* together with *CHRISTUS SPOHN's* representatives - Mr. Gary Little, Mesdames Mary Catherine Colley, Lori Hayes, Exaltacion Apolinario, and *CHRISTUS ST. JOSEPH's* representatives Mesdames Darlene Sims, Janet Matthews, and Charito Mendoza will conduct selections and execute contracts

To take advantage of this opportunity, candidates must personally apply asap by submitting comprehensive resume, school records (diploma, transcript of records), board rating, training certificates, employment credentials, plus two (2) passport photographs to

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IF POSSIBLE, CANDIDATES SHOULD BE CGFNS, TOEFL/TWE, AND TSE PASSERS OR AWAITING RESULTS. MINIMUM ONE (1) YEAR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. OVER 150 DEPLOYED RNs ON IMMIGRANT VISAS ARE NOW ENJOYING A NEW LIFE AND REWARDING CAREER IN THE U.S. WITH THEIR DEPENDENTS. ITS NOW YOUR TURN TO JOIN THIS GROUP OF SUCCESSFUL RNs.

WE ENTERTAIN NURSE APPLICANTS ON SUNDAYS.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO BID

The **NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY (NDA)**, a government-owned and controlled corporation attached to the Department of Agriculture (DA), invites interested bidders to submit sealed written tenders for the following laboratory equipment:

3,539 straws	100% Holstein-Freisian (For upgrading)
2,266 straws	75% - 25% Holstein-Sahiwal
2,046 straws	62.5% Holstein-Sahiwal
1,289 straws	50% - 50% Holstein-Sahiwal
300 packs	Straw Sheaths (with each pack of 50 straw sheaths = 15,000 pcs.)
124 boxes	A.I. Gloves (124 bxs of 100 pcs./box)
225 bottles	Lutalyze
400 bottles	Prostavet
300 bottles	CIDR

For purposes of clarifying issues re: specifications, terms and conditions, a **prebid conference** will be held on **February 8, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.** at the Shahani-Acosta Conference Room, NDA Building, BAI Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

Sealed bids in two (2) sets shall be received by the Pre-Bid and Awards Committee at the above address not later than **1:30 p.m. on February 15, 2002** and shall then be publicly opened immediately thereafter. All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond equivalent to 3% of the bid amount in the form of cash, cashier's/manager's check or GSIS guarantee bond issued in favor of NDA. All bidders are also required to submit together with the bid documents, an authenticated copy of their business license/registration, latest audited financial statements (Balance Sheet and Income Statements), latest income tax return (original to be shown for authentication purposes) and a copy of the organization's profile.

NDA reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any information therein, or to accept such bids or to award any part thereof to any bidder/s whose bid/s is/are considered most advantageous to NDA.

(Sgd.) **SALVACION M. BULATAO**
Administrator

(PDI – Jan. 27 & Feb. 3, 2002)

---

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E-mail resumé to:

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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Batanes
Office of the Provincial Governor
Basco, Batanes

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date: February 3, 2002
World Bank Loan No.: 4446 PH

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of Local Government Finance and Development (LOGOFIND) Project and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Construction of School Buildings. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The *Province of Batanes* thru its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible sources for the following projects:

   Package I - Renovation of Gabaldon Building and Completion of Two-Storey T.H.E. Building
   Batanes National High School, Basco, Batanes

   Renovation of Auditorium/Shop Building
   Batanes Polytechnic College, Basco, Batanes;

   Package III - Renovation of Two-Storey Classroom Building
   Mahatao National High School, Mahatao, Batanes;

   Construction and Completion of 2-units Two-Storey Classroom Building
   Ivana National High School, Ivana, Batanes;
3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the Governor, Province of Batanes, starting February 4, 2002 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P2,500.00)** or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after bid opening and must be accompanied by a security of:

   Package I - Two Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand Pesos (P226,000.00),
   Package III - One Hundred Sixty Thousand Pesos (160,000.00);

   in a form of cash, cashier's check, bank guarantee or its equivalent in a convertible currency, and shall be delivered to the Human Resources Training Center, Provincial Capital, Basco, Batanes on or before 2:00 p.m. March 7, 2002 at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m., March 01, 2002 at the Human Resources Training Center, Provincial Capital, Basco, Batanes.

(Sgd.) **VICENTE S. GATO**
Provincial Governor

(PDI—Feb. 3, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **Ms. CAROLINE M. YOROBE** is no longer connected with **DRUGMAKER'S LABORATORIES, INC.**

A criminal case is pending before the Trial Court of Parañaque City for the crime of Estafa thru falsification of commercial documents (3 counts) and falsification of private documents under criminal case numbers 02-05 to 02-09. A warrant of arrest has already been issued. Any information as to her whereabouts contact Drugmaker's Lab. Office at 821-1057 or 823-8905.

(PDI - Feb 3 2002)

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used office and residential furniture/equipment, appliances, computer equipment and 25KVA O'Brien Generator sets on an **"AS IS-WHERE IS"** basis.

All items can be inspected on **February 4-6, 2002** from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at **USAID Warehouse, 2345 Aurora Boulevard (formerly Tramo Street), Pasay City.** Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refunds will be on **February 7, 2002** at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/Cashier, 8th Floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

For further information and lot descriptions, please call Mr. Romeo S. Arquisola and Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 831-2271, 514-4229, 514-4234 and 514-4236.

(PDI – Feb. 2 & 3, 2002)

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You are now with God
But you will always be in our hearts forever....

CAPTAIN ISABELO PANTANGCO LIM

November 5, 1916 - February 2, 2002

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord

His late wife **Purificacion Cañiza Lim** (†); his bereaved children **Mario** and **Rina, Vedasto** and **Enriqueta** (†), **Macario** and **Jennifer, Gilda** and **Glenn, Pedro** and **Bernadette, Patricia** and **Eugene**, nephews, nieces, grandchildren and great grandchild request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, February 6, 2002 after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Ma. Teresa "Terry" Camacho Andaya

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on February 1, 2002
at the age of 66.

Her bereaved husband **COL. NOE S. ANDAYA (Ret.)**; children **RAFFY** and **RAUL** (†); daughter-in-law **CHESTNUT**; grandchildren **TRISHA, JUFFY, JUMMY** and **TRINA**; sister **MARYLOU C. YAZON**; relatives, friends and classmates request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Our Lady of Beautiful Love Church, Merville Park Subdivision, Parañaque.

Interment will be on Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at the Manila Memorial Park in Sucat after the 2:00 PM Mass in Merville.

"For to me to Live is Christ and to Die is Gain"
Philippians 1.21

LT. COL. JOVENCIO C. PARROCO (RET.)

Died in the Grace of the Lord on February 1, 2002
at the age of 84.

His bereaved wife **Teresita Torres Parroco**;
children **Maricon** and **Noye Alfiler, Boy** and **Anchit Lusaya, Manny** and **Beth Arceo, Tina** and **Mendell Martinez, Tess, Jomal** and **Pilar Guillen, George & Judy Ann**, and **Dioey Bautista**.

Grandchildren:
Adrian, Ana Grace, Delaine and **Conrad Madriaga, Dess** and **Ryan Lim, Eero, Eliel, Eunice, Nica, Joanna Marie, Bianca, Bryan**, and **Bea**; and great-grandchild **Andie**.

His remains lie in state at the Alisbo Memorial Chapels, Mandalagan, Bacolod City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at the Sacred Heart Memorial Park, Sum-ag, Bacolod City after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Sacred Heart Memorial Chapel.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord." Matthew 10:39

"You will forever be remembered, Mamang"

ATTY. HERMANA ANTIPOLO BACTAD

of San Antonio, Zambales

May 2, 1935 - January 30, 2002

Her body lies in state at #3 Madarang Street, Brgy., Burgos, San Antonio, Zambales.

Interment will be on Friday, February 8, 2002 at 2:00 in the afternoon at the Municipal Cemetery.

For more information, please contact Tel. No. (047) 913-4438.

In Loving Memory
on the **2nd Death Anniversary** of

MA. TERESA "TERE" LONGBOAN

November 14, 1959 - February 3, 2000

The Family request relatives, friends and pious reader to join them in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

Mama, we miss you so much,
Noel, Justin & Jaja

"My soul finds rest to God alone;
from Him comes my Salvation."
Psalms 62:2

Our Dearly Beloved

Dr. LEONARDO J. MENDIOLA

1912 - 2002

Now peacefully rests in the Infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord on the 1st day of February 2002 at the age of 89.

His loving wife **Basilia** (†); brother **Gregorio**; children and children-in-law **Norma & Melchor, Consuelo & Lamberto**; grandchildren **Grace, Gery, Titos, Isabel, Yasmine, Erick & Macky**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Don Bosco Chapels, in Pasay Road, Makati City.

Interment date to be announced.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

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1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu; Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

SIMON GREGORIO E. MABUNAY

The Public is hereby notified that **SIMON GREGORIO E. MABUNAY**, whose picture appears above, and with last known addresses at Camarote Apartment, Carlos Tan Street, Ormoc City, and 107 San Antonio Street, Molo, Iloilo City, is no longer connected with **CHINA BANKING CORPORATION** as of September 27, 2001.

A case of **QUALIFIED THEFT** has been filed against him and a **WARRANT** for his **ARREST** has been issued in connection with Criminal Case No. 6172-0 RTC 8th Judicial Region, Branch 12, Ormoc City.

Information regarding his present whereabouts may be relayed through Telephone Nos. 885-5257, 885-5152, 885-5932.

CHINA BANKING CORPORATION

(PDI – Feb. 3, 2002)

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that Ms. Grace M. Sompreque of Blk 10 Lot 34, Maia Alta Hills, Antipolo City, is no longer connected with APAC Orthodontic Supplies effective January 2, 2002. Any transactions entered into by her on behalf of APAC after Jan. 2, 2002, will no longer be honored by the company.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED CORN USERS

The National Food Authority (NFA) announces the availability of imported US Yellow Corngrains Grade No. 2 at P7.30/kg Ex-NFA warehouse at Pampanga and Bulacan with priority given to the small and medium corn users.

Interested buyers must however pay the NFA and NAFC appointed Cargo Handler the additional cost of integrated cargo services, sack used or container and trucking expenses of P1.20/kg.

As such, the buyer shall pay the cost of commodity plus the cost of services/ expenses in the total amount of P8.50/kg prior to any withdrawal ex-NFA warehouses.

Sale shall be on "First Come, First Serve" basis.

Interested parties may inquire from the following NFA Offices for details:

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Contact Person: Jasmin D. Banca
Telephone Nos.: 712-1572; 712-1564; 711-7433

NFA Pampanga
Sindalan, McArthur Highway
San Fernando, Pampanga
Contact Person: Mgr. Serafin Manalili
Telephone Nos.: (045) 963-2447; (045) 961-4657

NFA Bulacan
Tikay, Malolos, Bulacan
Contact Person: Mgr. Elvira Obaña
Tel. Nos.: (044) 662-4521; (044) 662-4418

(Sgd.) **ANTHONY R.A. ABAD**
Administrator

(PDI – Feb. 1, 2 & 3, 2002)

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of late ANDRES L. ABEJO has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc No. 41, Page No. 9, Book No. XIV Series of 1997 before notary public Renato M. Cervantes of Manila.
(PDI-Feb. 3, 10, & 17 2002.)

Notice is hereby given to the general public that Jeriel U. Mallari has filed a claim of self-adjudication in connection w/ the estate of the late Mercedes U. Mallari under affidavit of self adjudication signed by the Notary Public Vicente G. Villamil under Reg. 441, Page 89 Book 352, Series of 2002
(PDI- Jan-20, 27 & Feb- 3, 2002)

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PROPERTY DISPOSAL SALE

SEALED BID SALE of used 1990 Suburban Carryall van; 1991 Chevy S-10 Blazer vehicles and auxiliary warehouse building, wooden frame with GI sheets, approximately 21,500 sq.ft. with secured area of 900 sq.ft.

INSPECTION OF PROPERTY: February 5 to 6, 2002; 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at IBB/PTS (formerly Voice of America), Tinang, Concepcion, Tarlac. Submission of bids and 20% bond in cash or Manager's check will be on February 7, 2002 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

POC: Joel Diamzon
or Belle Concepcion
Tel. Nos. (045) 982-0254/055

(PDI - Feb. 2 & 3, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late BUENAVENTURA ALLANIGUE DIONISIO was extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc#287, Page#59, Book#88 Series of 2001 under Not. Public Felipe G. Antonio.
(PDI-Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 2002)

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late CONCEPCION C. HAUTEA had been the subject of a deed of Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate among Heirs with Authority to Sell under Doc. No. 1, Page 1, Book No. I, Seires of 2002 in the Notarial Registry of Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati City.
(PDI-Jan 22, 27 & Feb. 3 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late AMBROSIO S. LORENZO has been settled extrajudicially among his heirs per Doc. No. 287, Page No. 59, Book No. 18, Series of 2001 before Notary Public Hilarion T. Omadto Jr. (PDI-Jan. 27, Feb. 3 & 10, 2002)

NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE OF LOSS
Stock Certificate of MITSUBISHI CORPORATION under the name of NAOYUKI NOBE S.Cert.No.18 w/1 Share Dated March 23, 2001.If no contest presented w/in 3 consecutive week of publication,new cert. will be issued
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Chelo Banal-Formoso, Editor

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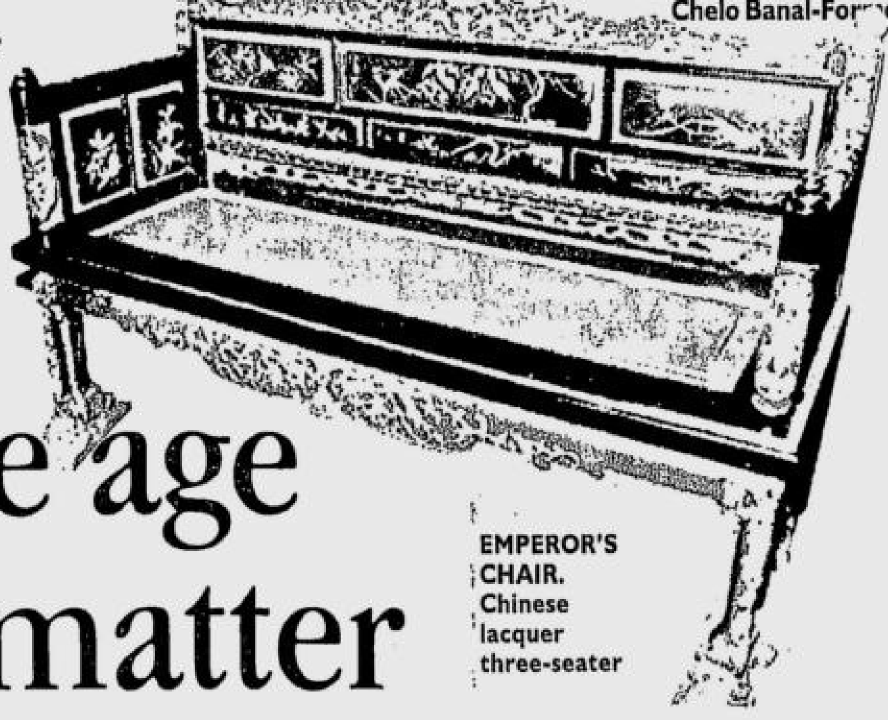

EMPEROR'S CHAIR. Chinese lacquer three-seater

Where age does matter

By Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Roger Carpio

ONE easily warms up to the doyenne of Philippine antique collections Viring de Asis. She accords each customer who comes into her fabled Jo Liza Antique Shop in San Juan the same kind of warmth and attention that she has been known for all these 35 years in the antiques business. She says that sheer hard work, honesty and truth in dealing with customers have been the keys to her success all these years.

This morning she is busy putting together the 150-plus pieces she is set to showcase at a grand exhibit-sale opening on Feb. 8 at the Activity Center of the Alabang Town Center. The furnishings come from various parts of Europe, the United States, the Middle East and Asia.

Viring remains sharp and sprightly in spite of a bad back. It is admirable how she is able to keep accurate track of her vast inventory. Juliet Obiado, who has been her assistant for 10 years, says Viring knows exactly how many pieces there are left of a particular item and where each item is located. De Asis pays particular attention to the care of each item and can easily rattle off the period or era of each piece in her three-story shop, which is also home to her and her family.

The business is a family affair. Eldest daughter Joann de Asis-Salgado, an interior designer by profession, takes care of the manufacturing side of the business. "We make Venetian mir-

WHEN/ p.C4

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER. Viring de Asis and Joanne de Asis-Salgado

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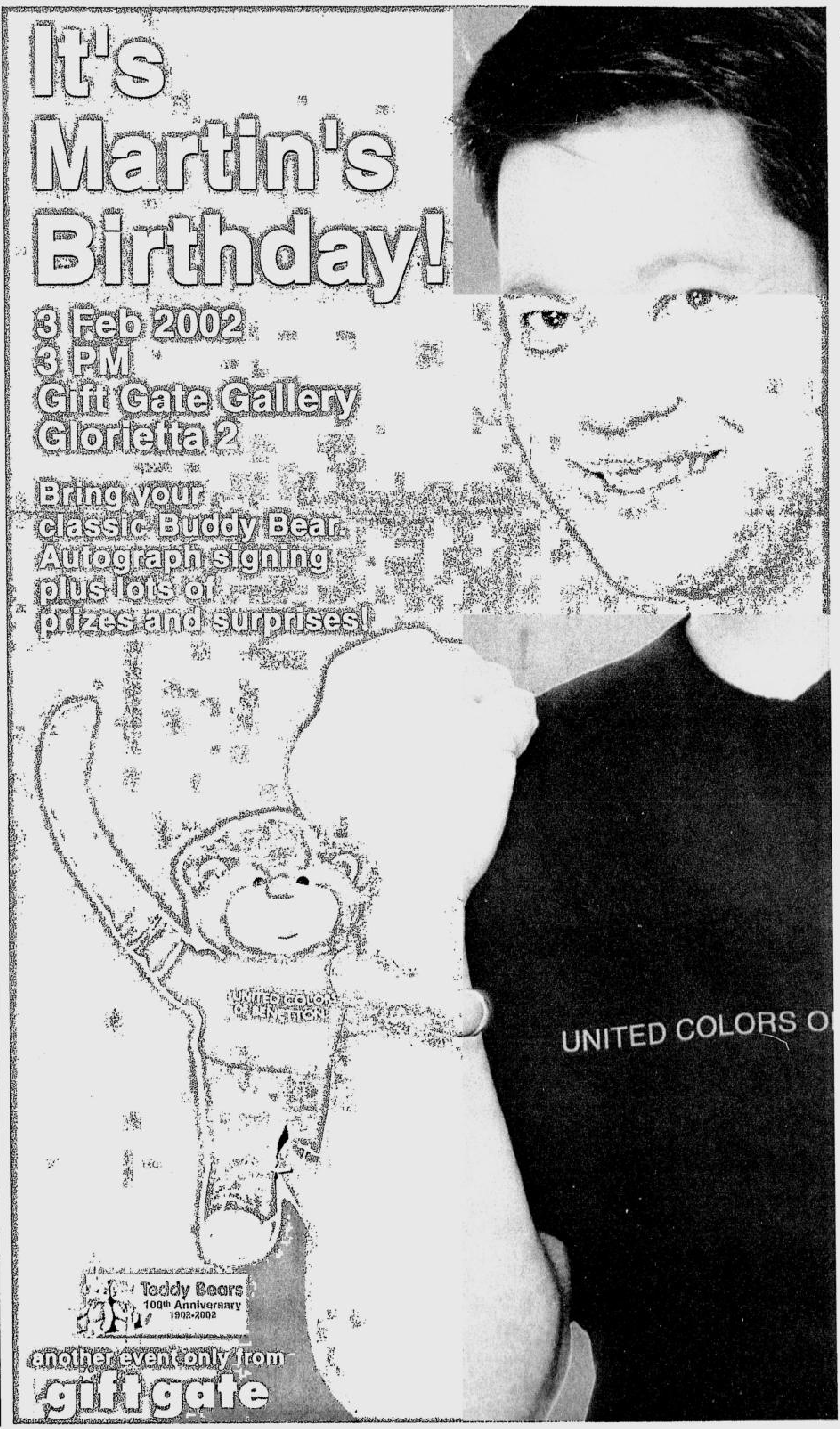
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Josephine Darang

WHEN Msgr. Josemaria Escriva established Opus Dei (Work of God) on Oct. 2, 1928, he probably had an insight into the future. He had known that men and women would need a way of life that was completely Christian: a way of life that struggles for sanctity in their work or situation in life.

Jesus calls us to perfection, Escriva said. One can become holy and a saint. Whether you are a maid, a gravedigger, a janitor, a waiter, waitress, a street-sweeper, a professional or a housewife, you can offer your work for the greater glory of God. In so doing, you are led to a path of spirituality and a lifestyle that would make you closer to the Lord.

It took me sometime, however, to acclimatize myself to an Opus Dei Mass. Last Jan. 9, I went to the birth centenary celebration of Blessed Escriva at the Manila Cathedral. Good friends Susan and Efren Laureola, who are cooperators, brought me with them.

3,000 people

The Manila Cathedral was filled to the rooftop with the UP Madrigal Singers and a quartet of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra occupying the choirloft. Every space was filled with people. Many had to stand up. I was surprised that Blessed Escriva had so much following.

And the altar was a picture of magnificence, with. Escriva's beautifully framed photograph enthroned at the right side of the altar. Flowers bloomed on the communion rail, and as in all Opus Dei Masses, the concelebrated Mass officiated by Jaime Cardinal Sin was solemn and resplendent. I saw at least 40 priests, five bishops and Msgr. Joseph Duran, regional vicar of Opus Dei in the Philippines.

The halls of the cathedral vibrated with songs of praise during the Mass. The responsorial psalm sung beautifully by Jerry Kliatchko said, "May the Lord build us a house, and watch over the city." It was telling us that "in vain do its builders labor," if the Lord is not there to watch over it.

BLESSED Josemaria Escriva

It was saying that, without the Lord as center of our lives, we are nothing. I am sure that the more than 3,000 people present felt this. But certainly, I knew then as I knelt in prayer that the only way to live was to offer my work to glorify the Lord.

I say more than 3,000 because there were 3,000 missalettes printed and 3,000 hosts prepared. By 5:30 p.m. the missalettes were gone and there were more people at the back spilling out into the street.

'Saints' in the world

Why is Escriva's teaching popular among professionals and workers all over the world? Work, according to Blessed Escriva, can sanctify you if offered for the glory of God. Work is prayer. And one can sanctify oneself through work; not only oneself, but also others.

Those who commit themselves to this way of life are called saints in the middle of the world.

It is not easy because, according to an Opus Dei member, "conversion is a moment, but sanctification is the work of a lifetime." Certainly, there is need for conversion among many people who are seeking for the fullness of life that they cannot find in the world. Since man is composed of body and spirit, the spiritual part of man is seeking for "peace that surpasseth all understanding."

When Msgr. Josemaria Escriva put up Opus Dei in 1928 in Madrid, he knew that men and women wanted to be sanctified while living in the world. When Opus Dei came to the Philippines in 1964 through Dr. Bernardo Villegas, Jess Estanislao and Placido Mapa, it took the country by storm.

Today, the devotion to Blessed Josemaria Escriva has been spread all over the country among people from all walks of life. Many seek his intercession in prayer and have received spiritual and material favors, including miraculous cures like the healing of a Filipina, Shirley Sangalang, in April 1989.

Beatification

Msgr. Josemaria Escriva passed away on June 26, 1975. By that time, his teachings have reached people from all walks of life. Four million copies of "The Way" ("Ang Daan" in Tagalog) have been sold all over the world.

Pope John Paul II beatified Msgr. Escriva in Rome on May 17, 1992, together with Mother Josephine Bakhita of the Canossians. Twenty-three cardinals, 200 bishops and a large number of priests came from all over the world for the occasion. St. Peter's Square was crowded with people.

For prayer cards to Blessed Escriva, please write the Prelature of Opus Dei at 20 corner Sampaguita St. and Balete Drive, 1112 New Manila, Quezon City. You may also e-mail Conrad Ricafort, director of information, at manila@opusdei.org.

Some of Escriva's books are available at National Bookstore such as "The Way," "Christ Is Passing By," "Friends of God" and "The Furrow."

If you need the "Chronicle of the Beatification," call Louie Uson of Sinag-tala Publishers at 897-1161.

World Day of the Sick

Feb. 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, is also the World Day of the Sick. At St. Andrew's Church in La Huerte, Parañaque, a healing Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Bayani Valenzuela on Feb. 11 at 8 a.m. It seems that Msgr. Bayani has been able to heal some cancer patients in previous celebrations of World Day of the Sick.

Harrison Plaza chapel to be blessed

The blessing of the chapel at Harrison Plaza, which is dedicated to St. Martha, will mark the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. Invited to say the Mass are Fr. Constantino Conti, parish priest of Our Lady of the Assumption Church on Leveriza, Malate; and Fr. Sannie de Claro, former parish priest of Leveriza, who first thought of the idea of having a new altar. The project was shouldered by Belen Ticson-Martel and her family.

Marian exhibit at Lourdes Church

A Marian exhibit is being held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes on Kanlaon, Quezon City until Feb. 12.

Novena Masses are being said at 5:30 p.m. until Feb. 10. Holy Mass follows at 6 p.m. A torch procession is being held afterward.

The healing Mass will be held on Feb. 9, Saturday, at 5 p.m. with Bishop Teodoro Buhain as celebrant. Fiesta Mass is on Feb. 11 at 12 noon with Bishop Soc Villegas as main celebrant.

Hermanos mayores of the Marian exhibit are Jorge Allan Tengco, Mellie Ablaza, Councilor Wilma Sarino, Danny and Pining Reyes and Nick and Alex Bonto.

At the ehxibit are the venerated images of Nuestra Señora de Peregrina, Our Lady of La Salette, Our Lady of Manaoag, Nuestra Señora de Guia, Our Lady of Loreto, Nuestra Señora de la Nieva, Nuestra Señora de la Rosa and Immaculada de Malabon.

Marriage encounter

The Bukas Loob sa Diyos Community is holding a series of marriage encounter seminars at its Covenant House in Dasmariñas, Cavite. The schedules are ME 250, Feb. 8-10; ME 251, Feb. 22-24; and ME 252, March 1-3. Interested couples may call up BLD office at 746-2585; 637-0292 or fax 638-7372. BLD office is at 97-D West Capitol Drive, Bgy. Kapitolyo, Pasig City.

Mother Butler exhibit in Kawit

The Mother Butler Guild in the Diocese of Imus, with the Aguinaldo Shrine, is holding an exhibit of liturgical vestments and religious images in the shrine itself until Feb. 8. MBG president Tita de Villa opened the exhibit yesterday. Consuelo Aguinaldo-Abaya is the president of the Mother Butler Guild in the diocese.

Kythe turns 10

Kythe Inc., the first proponent of the internationally acclaimed Child Life Program in the Philippines, hosts a week-long celebration to mark its 10th anniversary on Feb. 5-9. Activities will include kiddie pet therapy, kite flying, *lugawan* for a cause, blood donation, breast examination, live band concert, thanksgiving Mass, as well as "Be a Kyther for a Day" to underscore this year's' theme: "A Tribute to Kythe Volunteers."

The public is invited to enjoy and participate in the events that will take place at East Avenue Medical Center and the Ateneo de Manila University.

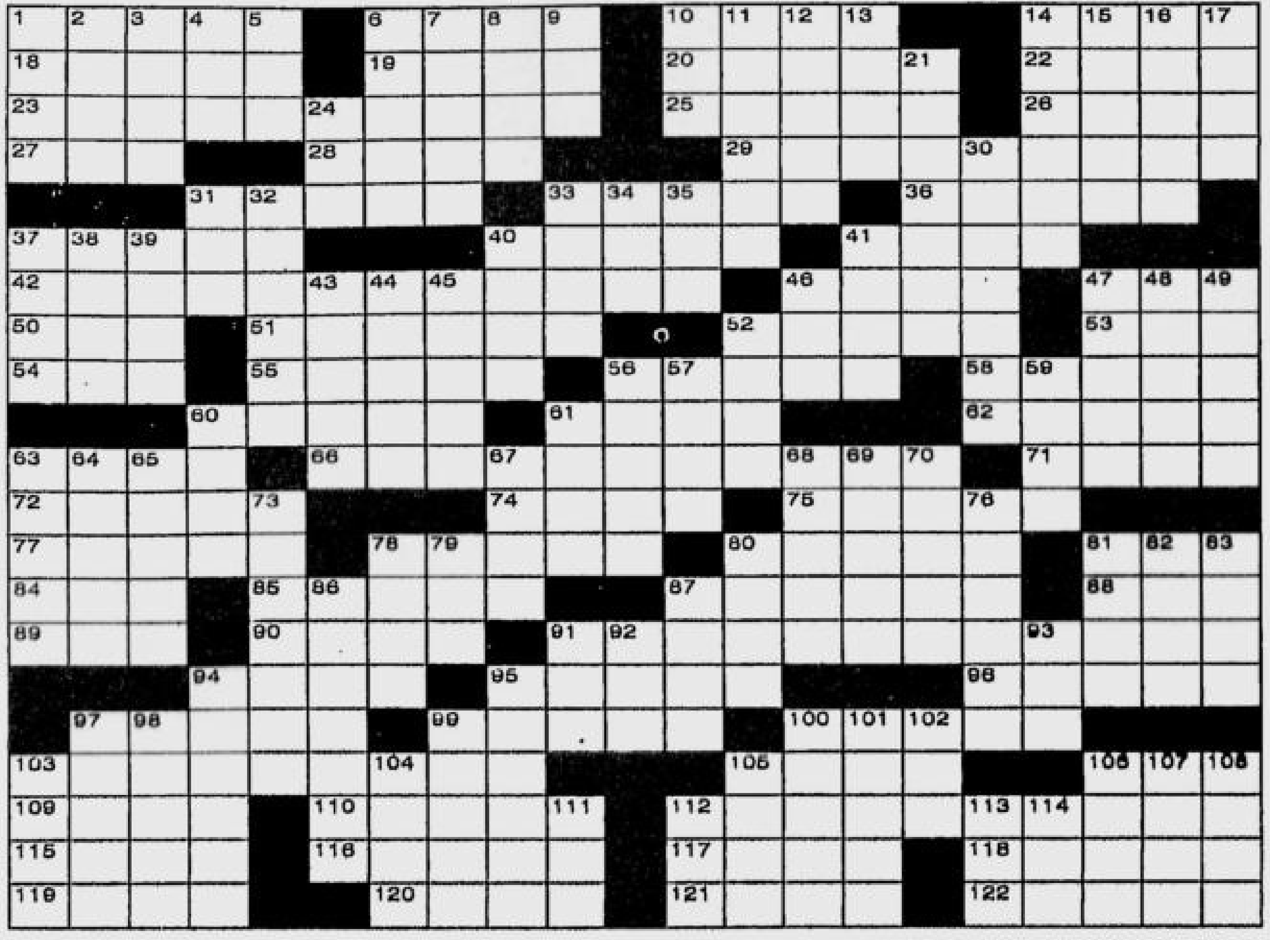
Call 922-6370 and 928-0611 local 263. Would you like to be a volunteer and help a child?

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

ACROSS
1 Florida athlete
6 TV's "Queen for —"
10 Some wines
14 Barrel
18 "Pal Joey" author
19 Hoffmann creation
20 Schemes
22 "All —" ('84 film)
23 View a parade?
25 Sal of "Giant"
26 Parka feature
27 Shaq's pack
28 Palo —, CA
29 Plagiarize?
31 Perplex
33 Mendicant monk
36 Bathe in butter
37 Diminish
40 "The Waste Land" poet
41 Nomad pad
42 Downsize the WBA?
46 Tigris-Euphrates land
47 Globe
50 Neighbor of Tenn.
51 Thiss and thaat
52 Reeves of "Sweet November"
53 Norm
54 Yank opponent
55 Director Kurosawa
56 Nest noise
58 Dodge
60 Exorbitant
61 Any time now
62 Hook on a hawk
63 Exchange
66 Forgo snacks?
71 "Say It — So" '83 hit)
72 Pool shot
74 Spellbound
75 Birth-related
77 Japanese dog
78 Your neighbor's kids
80 Extinct lemon?
81 Paris' L'— de Triomphe
84 Guitarist Paul
85 Antitoxin
87 Regular
88 Mauna —
89 Chemical ending
90 Tizzy
91 Make the beds?
94 State of confusion
95 Trickster
96 Host a roast
97 Mournful poem
99 Dieter's dish
100 Corday's prey
103 Prepare to wrestle?
105 Paretsky or Teasdale
106 "Well, I'll be!"
109 Kuwaiti ruler
110 Precise
112 Shop till you drop?
115 Hawaii's state bird
116 Ravi-shing instrument?
117 Kid at court
118 What i.e. stands for
119 Genealogy diagram
120 Ward of "Sisters"
121 "Its been —!"
122 Soprano Fleming

DOWN
1 Wedding wear
2 "Pequod" captain
3 "Cheerio!"
4 Mythical monster
5 "Go, team!"
6 In any way
7 Football's Lavelli
8 Designer Gucci
9 "Absolutely!"
10 Tach meas.
11 Bring to light
12 Patron
13 — aerobics
14 Share the mike
15 In progress
16 Cure
17 Converse competitor
21 Tofu source
24 "— Girls" ('79 smash)
30 Feast
31 Enjoyed 30 Down
32 Vanquish
33 Terrier's tormenter
34 Rock's — Supply
35 Lewis stats
37 Out of range
38 Ill temper
39 Jeddah gentleman
40 Singer James
41 Pitfall
43 Vexed
44 Rosey of the Rams
45 Silent star?
46 Cloth finish?
47 Iridescent stones
48 Hazardous gas
49 Sportscaster Musberger
52 Pain in the neck
56 Egg plants?
57 Owl's cry
59 Colorado resort
60 Detect
61 "Git, Garfield!"
63 Prepare perch
64 Rouse
65 Originate
67 Bloomsbury buggy
68 Curry country
69 Facilitated
70 Commando weapons
73 Rub
76 Gibson of tennis
78 Soft cheese
79 Furrow
80 Gen. Robt. —
81 Templeton or Baldwin
82 Learning method
83 Instance
86 Pepsin and lipase
87 Muck
91 Costa del —
92 Green org.
93 CPR provider
94 Lay down the law
95 Imp
97 Glue guy
98 Singer Frankie
99 Condition
100 Mrs. Simpson
101 Sign of spring
102 Seance sound
103 Confined
104 Geometry term
105 Fawn's father
106 Singer Campbell
107 Otherwise
108 Tivoli's Villa d'—
111 Singing syllable
112 Loser's locale
113 "Bei — Bist Du Schoen" ('37 song)
114 Citrus cooler



SEE ON ENTERTAINMENT PAGE

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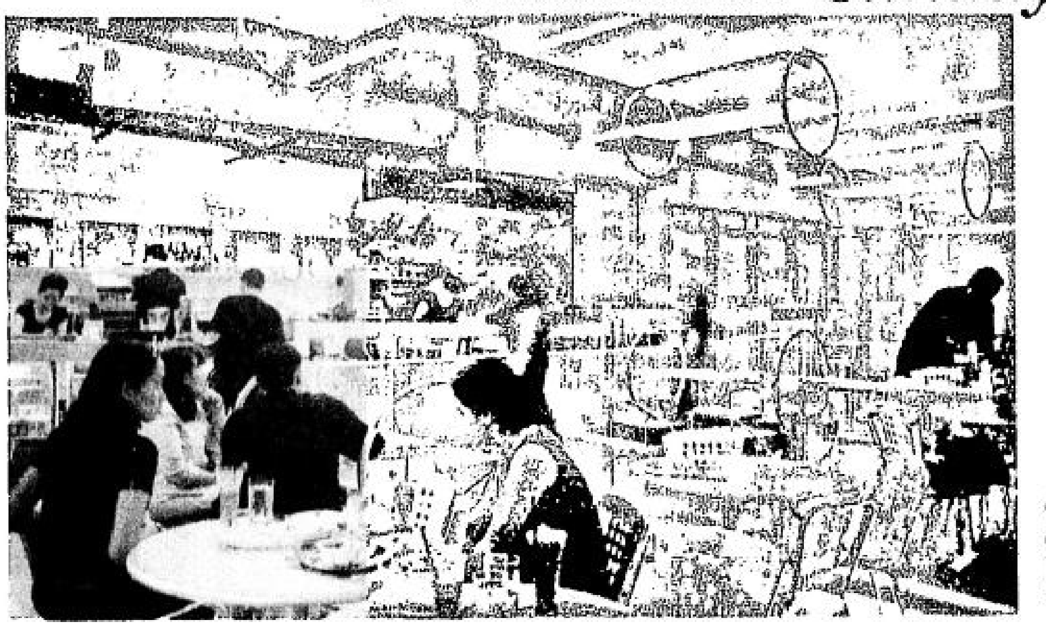
E-mail: mrs_bohun@pacific.net.ph.



ONCE MORE WITH FEELING. Mega Strip A lights up the opposite side of Julia Vargas Avenue.

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

CIBO'S distinctive look and more

One good strip deserves another

By Alex Y. Vergara

MALL habitues have more reasons to troop to SM Megamall these days. The country's largest shopping mall has just gotten "bigger" with the recent opening of Mega Strip A, a row of restaurants that has drawn inspiration from the success of a similar attraction called Mega Strip B across busy Julia Vargas Avenue.

"A good thing deserves another," says Millie Dizon, SM's senior assistant vice president for marketing. "It's our response to the market's ever-changing lifestyles."

Mega Strip A is composed of such diverse but established names as Starbucks, Kenny Rogers, Cibo, Café Metro and La Piadina. To complement the twin strips' long hours and accessible location, a cigarette and magazine store is set to open next to Cibo. This recent development has brought the number of establishments lining both strips to 13.

Beyond usual hours

Like their forerunners, which opened one after another more than a year ago, establishments lining the clean, well-lit Mega Strip A are open beyond mall hours, endowing the area with renewed energy way into the night. This is a far cry from before when people shunned both sides of the dark stretch as soon as SM Megamall closed its doors.

Starbucks, for instance, is open for business as early as 7 a.m. to take advantage of the area's large office crowd. Most establishments are open up to 2 a.m. on weekends to provide harried shoppers, yuppies, executives and businessmen more dining (and drinking) options.

Aside from the mall's adequate parking area, each outlet has several parking slots a few meters from the strip's wide sidewalk. Diners have the option to dine indoors or al fresco. Believe it or not, Filipinos have started to literally eat out more often, especially during cool nights.

"We want to provide more options to the after-office crowd looking for places to go to at the end of a busy workday," says Dizon. Establishment owners have started to fine-tune their offerings to cater to such a demanding clientele.

Ready to go

Margarita Fores, owner of Cibo, for instance, has started offering ready-to-go food items such as sinful porchetta rolls, pizza squares and risotto balls. Porchetta is *lechon de leche* roasted the Italian way with rosemary and various herbs and spices. The meat is cut and served in either soft or hard rolls.

"SM has been inviting me to join them for as long as I can remember," says Fores, "but I wasn't ready yet. I wasn't sure if I could fill such a big space."

This is the first street-level branch Fores has opened, so she has had to create new items to maximize Cibo's accessible location. Her fears are unfounded. A steady stream of diners has been flocking to Cibo and other restaurants lining the strip during lunch and dinner.

"Since each of us offers different dishes," says Ria de Guzman, owner of Café Metro, "we complement rather than compete with each other. I find competition helpful." The restaurant offers home-cooked Asian dishes.

A MIX of old and new names

Italian Giorgio Matera, owner of adjacent La Piadina, has a different take on competition. "Competition is very educational, but don't focus too much on the competition lest you lose focus on what you're doing. One thing good about Mega Strip A is it provides people with more choices."

E-mail the author at avergara@ inquirer. com.ph

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BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
FEB 3
Martin Lawrence, Nia Long & Paul Giamatti
DRESSING UP FOR A STAKEDOWN
An FBI agent disguises himself as a fat old lady to trap a brutal bank robber.

DANGEROUS MINDS
FEB 10
Michelle Pfeiffer, George Dzundza, Courtney B. Vance & Robin Bartlett
SHE BROKE THE RULES...& CHANGED THEIR LIVES
An ex-marine teacher struggles to connect with her students in an inner city school.

GONE IN 60 SECONDS
FEB 17
Nicolas Cage, Robert Duvall, Giovanni Ribisi & Angelina Jolie
GET READY FOR THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE
A retired master car thief must come back to the industry and steal 50 cars in one night to save his brother's life.

SHANGHAI NOON
FEB 24
Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson, Lucy Liu & Brandon Merrill
THE CLASSIC WESTERN GETS A KICK IN THE PANTS
Jackie Chan plays a Chinese Imperial guard who travels to the Wild West to rescue a kidnapped princess.

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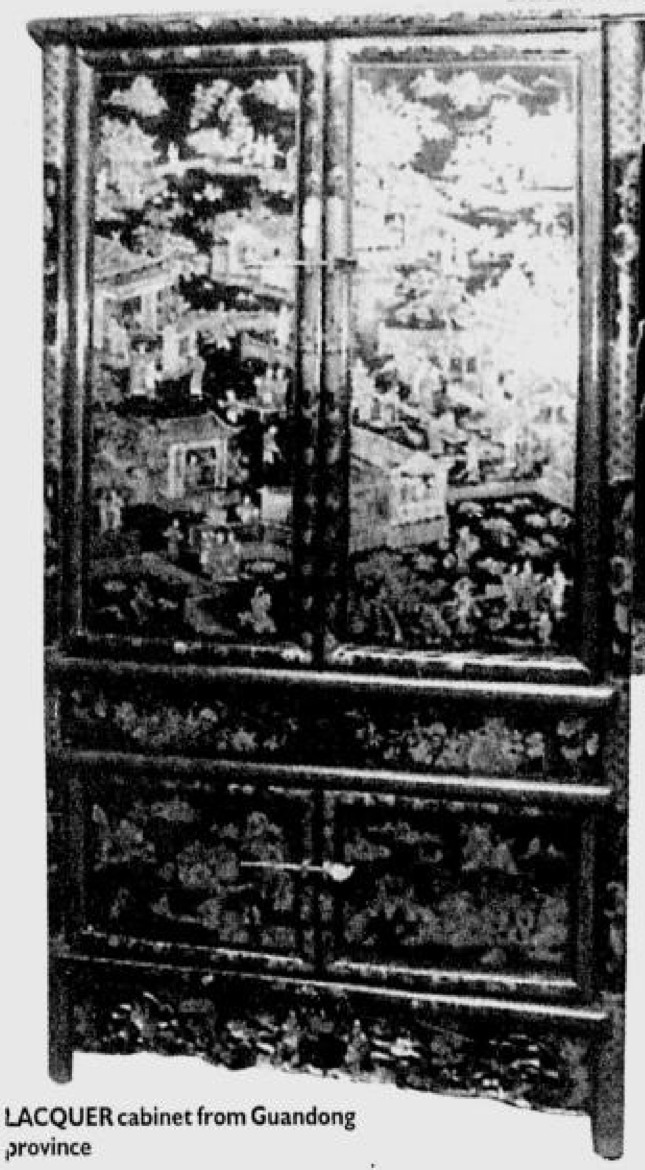
Period pieces picked up from her travels will be put on exhibit and sale by antiques doyenne Viring de Asis

SAIGON SPLENDOR. Vietnamese living room set in 90 percent silver.



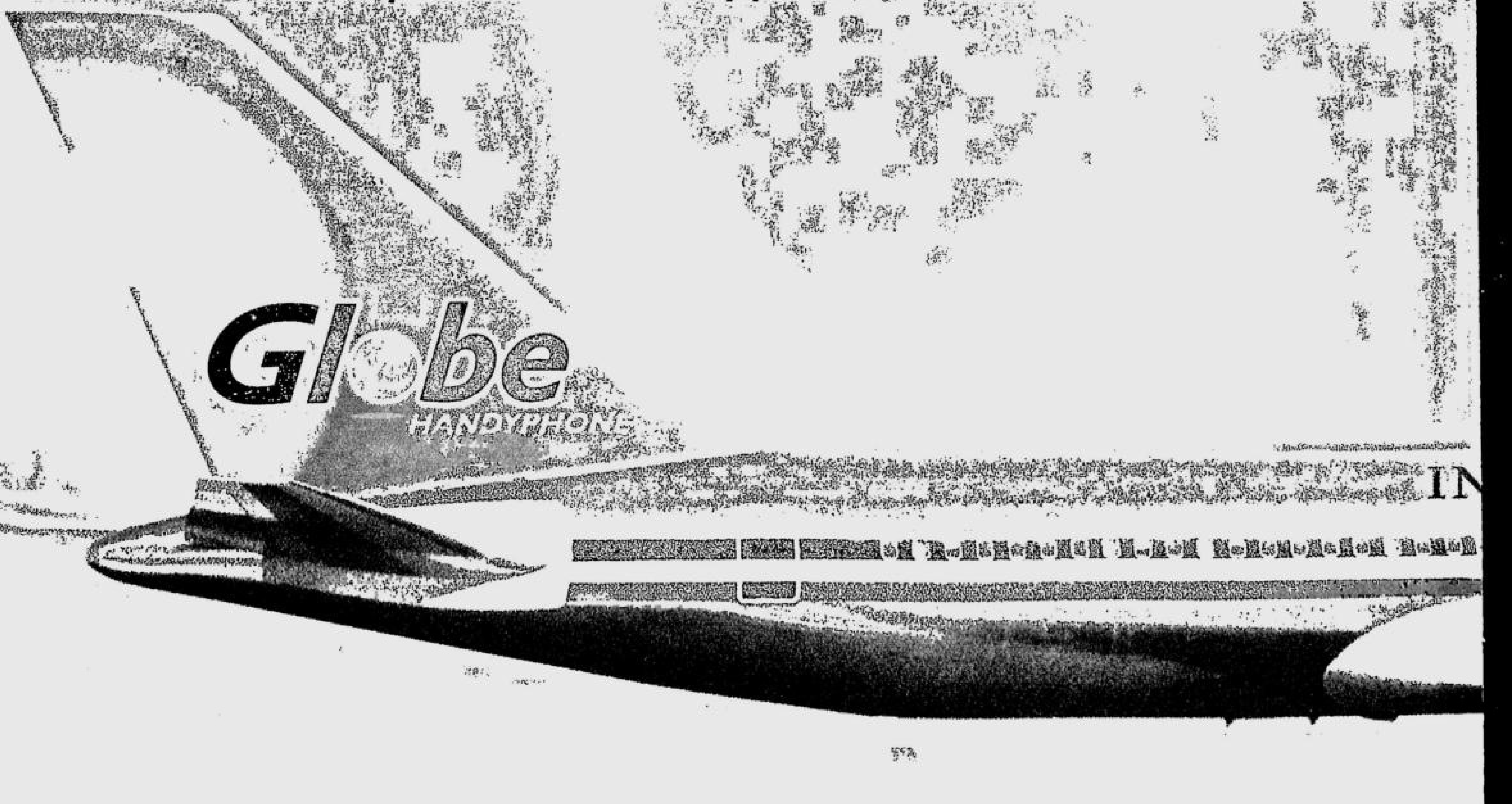
LACQUER cabinet from Guandong province

Where age does matter

From page C1

rors, furniture from antique wood that mommy sources from old houses that have been demolished," Salgado says. Jo-Liza can also custom-make furniture to specifications. A 14-seater dining table, for example, is a popular choice as is a wooden antique cabinet with glass doors. Her husband, Dr. Gerard Salgado, a dermatologist by profession, helps oversee the Jo-Liza shop at the Alabang Town Center. A younger daughter, Liza de Asis-Maya, is based in California.

If age has not hampered De Asis, age does matter with the items to be exhibited beginning Friday. The treasures have been handpicked by De Asis, who travels five times a year all over the world in search of rare finds. To be showcased at the exhibit and sale are elaborate garden fountains from Italy, a beautiful, one-of-a-kind antique temple door from India, living room sets and solo chairs with mother-of-pearl inlay from Vietnam. De



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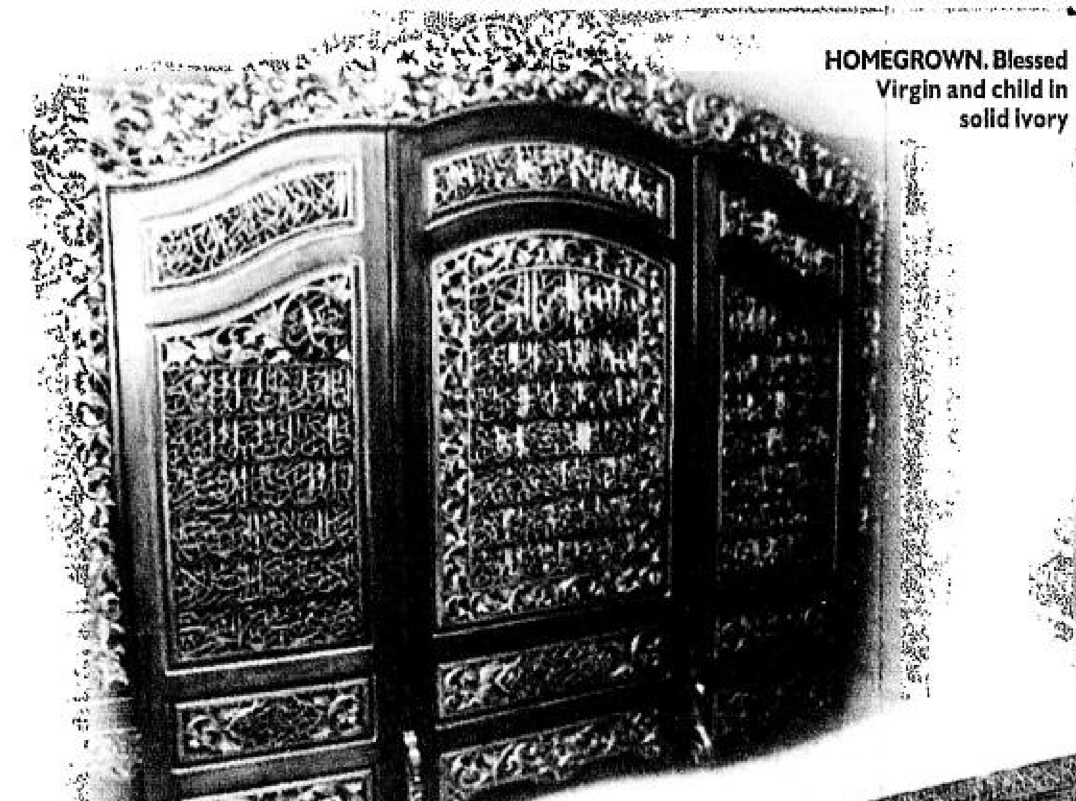

ARABIC divider from the Middle East

HOMEGROWN. Blessed Virgin and child in solid ivory

ANTIQUE temple doors from India

Asis says the Vietnam articles make excellent investment pieces as Vietnam no longer allows antiques to be brought out of the country.

"I started going there more than 20 years ago. *Giyera pa nga, nagpupunta na ako,*" she quips. There are also lovely medicine chests from Korea, wardrobe cabinets from Guandong, intricately carved Arabic dividers, silver sets from India and art deco accessories from the United States, among others. From France, Italy and Spain come buffet cabinets, wooden sideboards, bronze figurines, lamps and accent pieces, which once graced fabulous European manors and palaces.

Viring de Asis will be the first to admit that she is a lover of beautiful things, while her trusted aides say their mistress has an uncanny eye for unique finds and a gift for knowing what her customers want. Certainly, a vast inventory from the world over, a loyal clientele and a business that continues to thrive through the hard times can attest to that.

The "Jo-Liza Antique Shop 4th Grand Exhibit and Sale" at Alabang Town Center will run from Feb. 8 -17

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

Rizal reborn

By Celeste Legaspi
Contributor

ROLLODA, proudly Filipino like Rizal

IT was in 1996 during the Centennial celebrations of Dr. Jose Rizal's martyrdom at the Bagumbayan that Musicat, of which I'm a part, produced Nonoy Gallardo's "Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?"

An original Filipino musical about the life of Rizal, it was presented free to the public, with Ogie Alcasid as Rizal, Mikee Cojuangco as Leonor Rivera, Rachel Alejandro as Josephine Bracken, Bobby Martino as Paciano and Joy Virata as Teodora Alonzo, under the direction of Nestor U. Torre.

It was a big, open-air and difficult venue at the Rizal Park, with our actors portraying turn-of-the-century Filipino heroes holding hand-held wireless mikes because of the technical limitations and demands of an open venue. It was a seemingly chaotic production with an endless string of confusing and urgent technical requirements. But under Nestor, Ogie and the cast completely and ardently embraced their roles.

Ogie stood tall, crying his heart out as he sang "Mi Ultimo Adios," with the Spanish words written 100 years ago by Jose Rizal and then the Tagalog words used by Andres Bonifacio to translate Rizal's poem of goodbye on music composed by Nonoy Gallardo 100 years later. I thought nothing could top that unique moment.

And so, in August 2001, when we auditioned actors for the role of Jose Rizal for our January to February 2002 run of the musical at the Music Museum, I was apprehensive. Could we find a singer-actor about 5'2" with the looks of Jose Rizal who could at least come close to Ogie? Today, I am satisfied and happy to declare: Yes, *nagwagi na naman ang* Filipino artist!

Roy Rolloda, young, proud, intensely talented, Filipino and single-mindedly focused on his difficult role as our country's national hero, succeeds. He showed us Rizal as a charming and brilliant young man beginning to realize his role in our country's history. He showed us Rizal accepting the challenge of writing his "Noli Me Tangere," his "Spoliarium on paper" that revealed to the world the country's true state. He showed us Rizal rising above the punishment of isolation in Dapitan, turning that suffering into an opportunity to help the town's people. Finally, he showed us Rizal accepting his fate with "Mi Ultimo Adios," again with the words of Rizal and Bonifacio and music of Gallardo.

It was a performance throbbing with understanding of what Rizal stood for, and always with a passion for the material he was working with.

Of course, Roy had tremendous help: from director Helen Dabao, the other cast members, the words and music of Gallardo and all the other wonderful aspects of the musical. But it was Roy who pulled it all together, making it real for all of us watching him.

Thanks to him, today I am even more confident that in the future, when we once again mount this musical, yet again another truly talented, intensely committed young Filipino artist will come forth and shine. Of this I am sure.

No matter how crazy the traffic is in our city. No matter how much garbage is left on our roads. No matter that our politicians look only after their own interests. No matter that we Filipinos do nothing but complain. After all, we are the unique, exceedingly musical and talented race that produced Dr. Jose Rizal.

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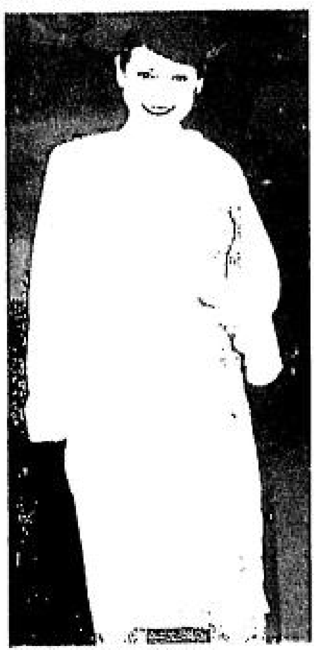
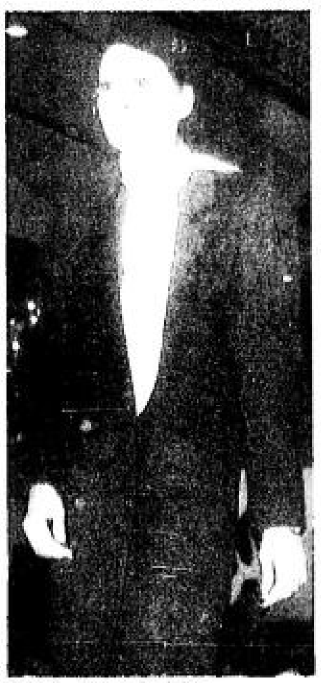
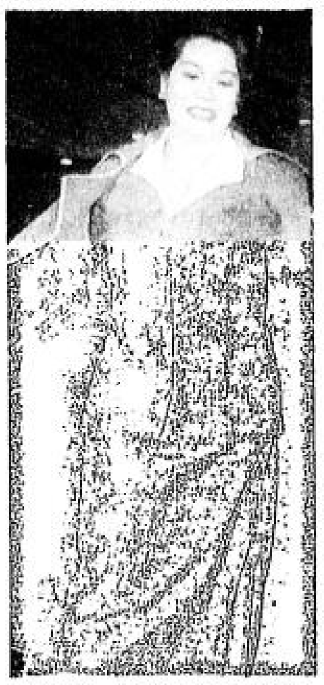
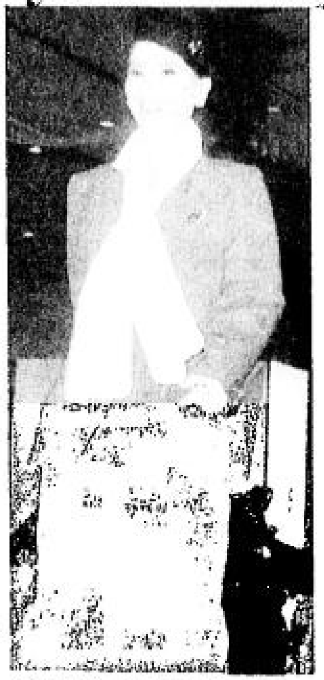
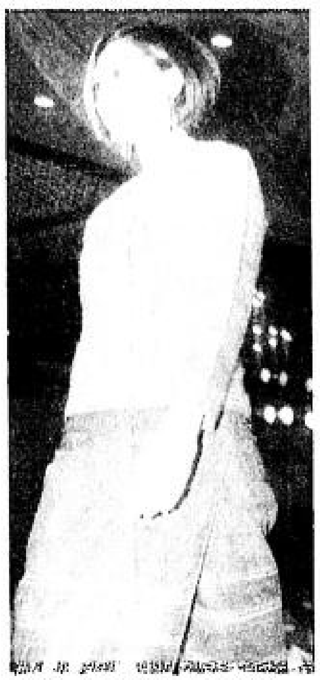
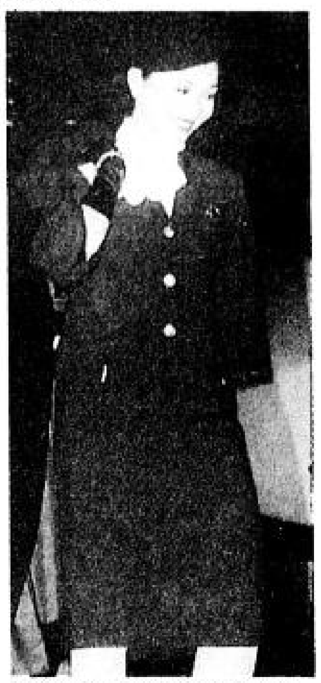

THE 1947 uniform, modeled by Isabel Trespeces

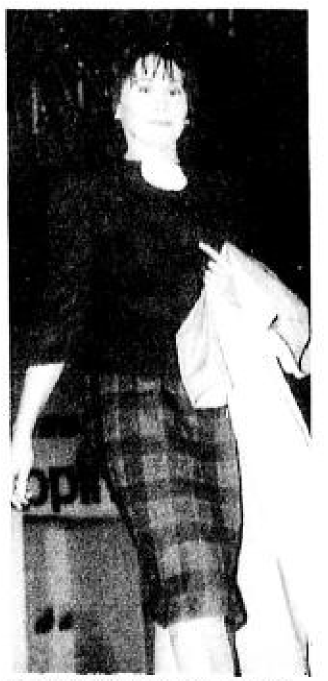

1949, modeled by Marissa Lotuaco


1949-52, modeled by Aida Alba Chua


1955-56, modeled by Bibeth Bondoc


1960, modeled by Jollie Oropesa


1960, modeled by Cherrie Caraan


BY RAMON Valera, 1963, modeled by Beth Punzalan

High-flying fashion through the years

By Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Mandy Navasero

PAL's cabin crew uniforms have gone through various reincarnations

AS checkered as the history of the Philippine Air Lines itself is the evolution of the uniform of its cabin crew since the first time Asia's oldest airline took to the skies in 1946.

Starting with an ensemble grabbed off the rack at an Azcarraga (now Claro M. Recto Avenue in Quiapo) store, the PAL uniform—in its various incarnations and reincarnations—would later be designed in haute couture houses in both the Philippines and Europe. The outfits ranged from the sublime to the ridiculous, from being too impractical to being too campy. They shifted from the "native" to the international look. One foreign designer's concoction could just as easily be worn by the flight crew of his country's flag carrier, Air France, while another made the PAL staff look like they joined the Hare Krishna movement or costume party guests dressed up as *salagubang*.

There's something to be said about allowing your own to design your flag carrier's uniforms. True, there were a few misses as well but, in general, the uniforms designed by Filipinos carried that distinctive Pinoy flavor, which went well with an airline flying the Philippine flag.

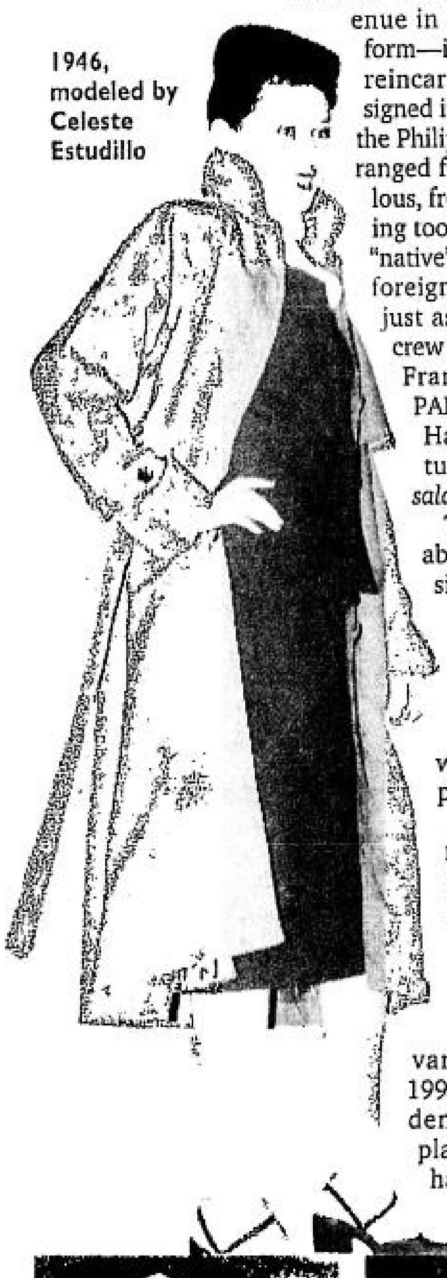
The PAL cabin crew's uniforms in the past 56 years were showcased in a recent fashion show organized by the Association of Former Flight Attendants of PAL (Affap) at the Manila Hotel to raise funds to help former colleagues and for its various projects. Organized in 1997, Affap, according to its president Avelyn Gimenez-Jahns, is planning to set up some kind of halfway house that will provide livelihood to needy colleagues. "Being former flight attendants, they will have been trained very well in the social graces, bar and restaurant services, lifesaving techniques and similar [skills]," Gimenez-Jahns said in her speech during Affap's Grand Global Homecoming.

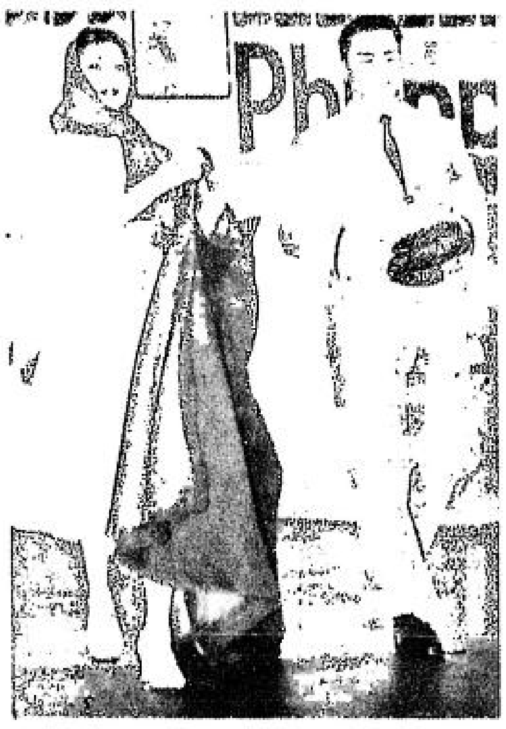
She said the halfway house could be the retired flight attendants' residence and place of business where they could conduct training programs. The house, Gimenez-Jahns added, could "take the shape of a charm school or finishing school where various skills can be learned."

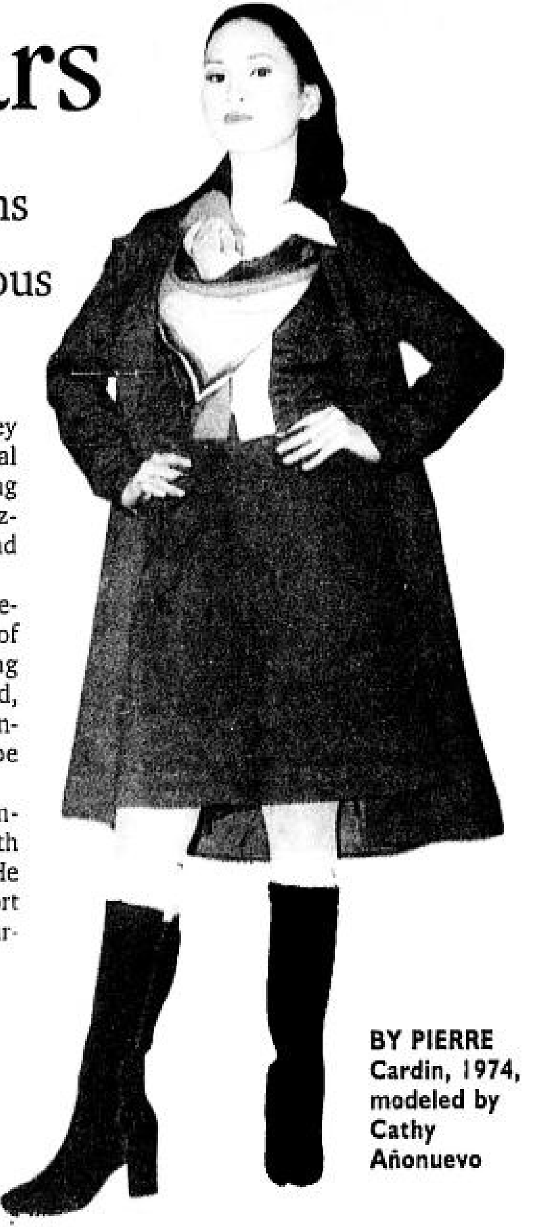
PAL president Avelino L. Zapanta commended Affap for its activities, starting with projects for street children and the elderly. He assured the association of the airline's support and added that PAL would overcome the current crisis and survive.

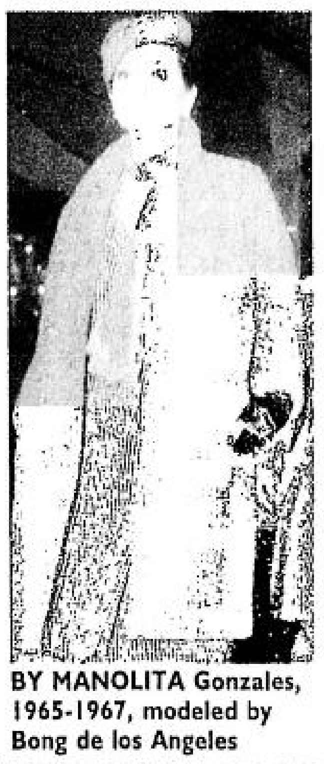
Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon, who was the guest speaker, assured both the association and PAL of his department's help. He said his goal was for the tourism industry, the number one money-earner in most parts of the world, not just to break even but to break records. The secretary said the department had launched its WOW campaign, promoting the Philippines as a destination with a "Wealth of Wonders."

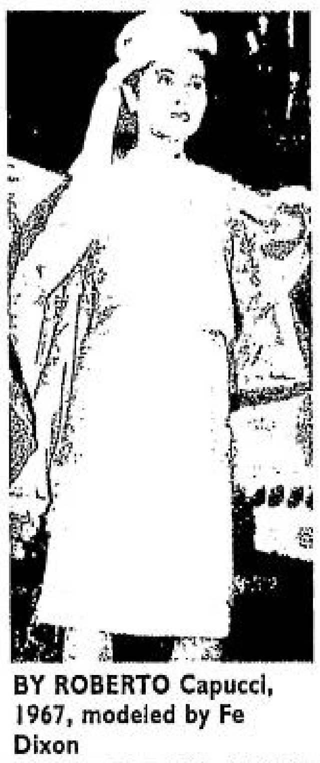
He added that he would harness the volunteerism spirit that worked so well when he started the rehabilitation of Subic Bay after the American naval base was dismantled to boost efforts to make the country a favorite tourist destination.

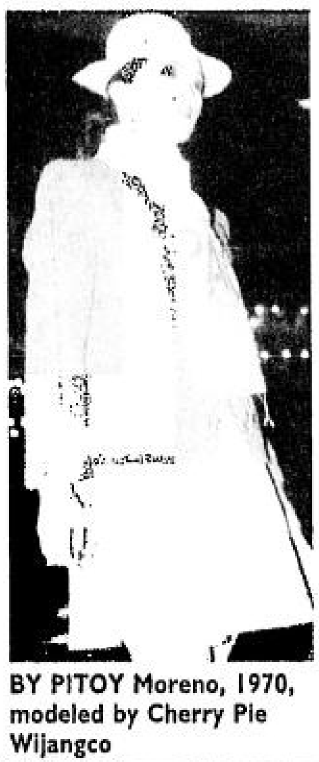

1946, modeled by Celeste Estudillo

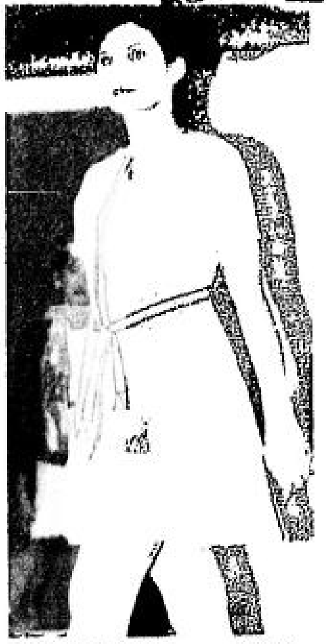

PAL'S first uniform, 1946, modeled by Sally Hofileña and Christopher Hover

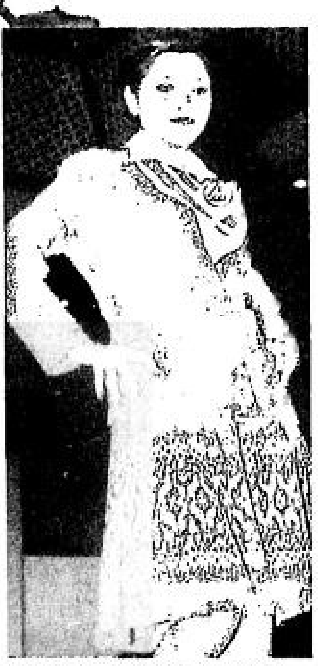

BY PIERRE Cardin, 1974, modeled by Cathy Añonuevo

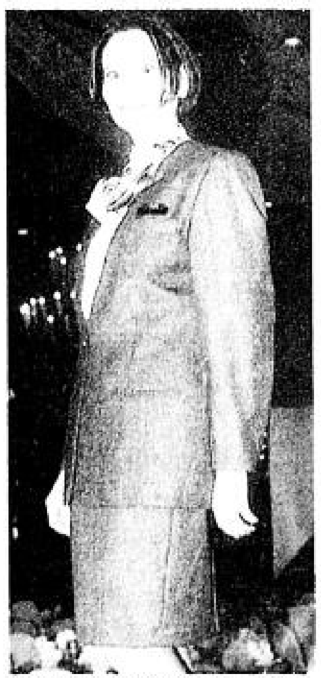

BY MANOLITA Gonzales, 1965-1967, modeled by Bong de los Angeles

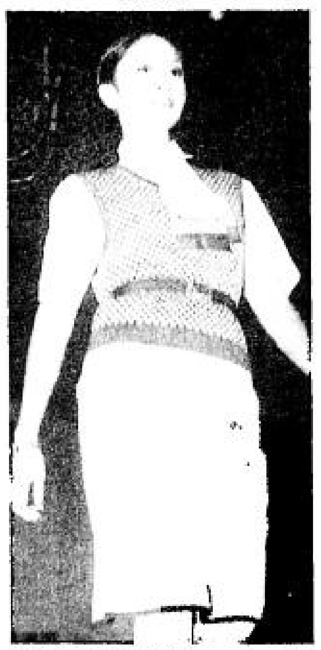

BY ROBERTO Capucci, 1967, modeled by Fe Dixon

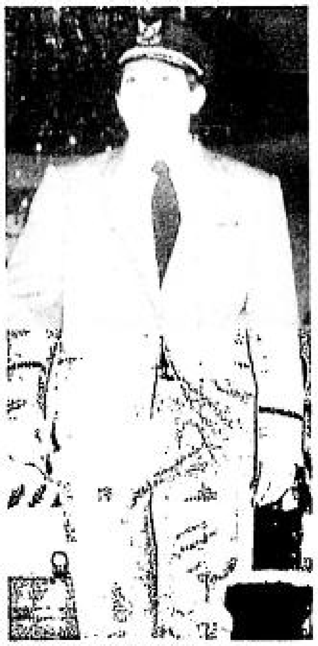

BY PITOY Moreno, 1970, modeled by Cherry Pie Wijangco

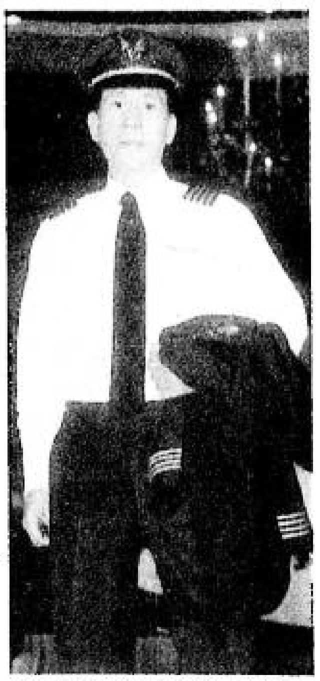

BY PITOY Moreno, 1970, modeled by Donabel Trinidad

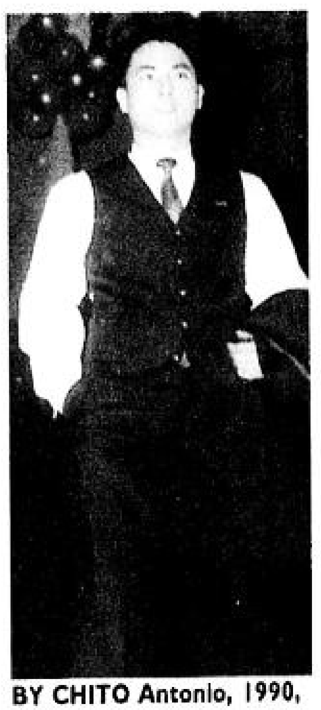

BY CHRISTIAN Espiritu, 1978, modeled by Lanie Nierras


BY CHITO Antonio, 1991, modeled by Shiela Payumo


BY RENATO Balestra, 1984, modeled by Nerissa Quilan


BY ROBERTO Capucci, 1967, modeled by Ramon Ortega


BY PIERRE Cardin, 1974, modeled by Lito Trias


BY CHITO Antonio, 1990, modeled by Lawrence Sese

Martin Nievera grins and bears it

MARTIN with today's bears and Buddy Bear

HOW do you celebrate the coming into this world of two beloved huggables?

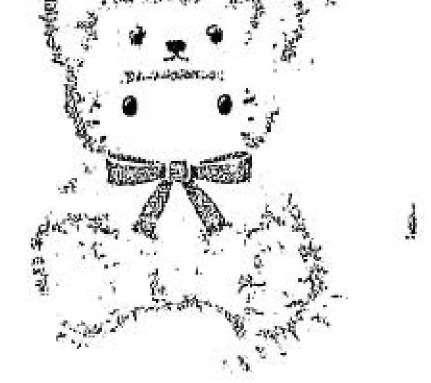
Party with Martin Nievera and his friend Buddy Bear at 3 p.m. today at the Gift Gate Gallery, Glorietta as they toast Martin's birthday and the teddy bear's 100th anniversary.

At the end of a hunt in 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt failed to bag a catch so some of his companions tied a bear cub to a tree for him to shoot. Fortunately, the President's love for life prevailed and he spared the cub's life. Two days later, a political cartoonist sketched the dramatic incident as a cartoon for the Washington Post. Inspired by the cartoon, the wife of a stationery store owner, Rose Michtom, created a plush bear and with the President's approval, called it Teddy's Bear.

To commemorate the lovable toy's centennial year, Gift Gate, its home in the Philippines, is kicking off "Teddy Bears: 100th Anniversary 1902-2002" with the revival of Martin's Buddy Bear. In the second quarter, the spotlight will be on Kitty Teddy Bear from Sanrio. The third quarter will be a celebration with Russ, one of the largest makers of teddy bears in the world. And to culminate this yearlong event, Christmas 2002 will feature a "Dress Up Your Teddy Bear" contest with Diamond Edition Teddy Bears to be given as major prizes. It is never too early to start thinking of "beary" exciting ideas for your teddy's outfit.

Buddy Bear has always been Martin's friend. And now he has a fresh new look with longer arms to hold you and more chest size to hold loads of love for you. And there's more. Bring your classic Buddy Bear dolls to the party and get a new Buddy Bear in his fresh new look.

YESTERDAY'S traditional teddies



TOMORROW'S BEAR. The Kitty Teddy Bear

Is tax on parcels from abroad based on whim?

WHY doesn't the Bureau of Customs issue a clear-cut mandate covering taxes on parcels from abroad, to be implemented by all postal offices in the country? As it is, there are some postal offices that do not charge taxes on parcels, obviously because there is no customs office in place.

Needless to say, a clear-cut taxation scheme for parcels and packages will clear all doubts at postal customs offices, and minimize smuggling through the post.

In a previous column, we aired the complaint of Ms L. Mancao about being taxed P1,100 by the Makati Central Post Office for a gift package containing six brand-new CDs, two small stuffed dolls and two hotel souvenir pens, all valued at $65 by sender in the US. When she complained, the customs official decided to lift the tax off the stuffed dolls and souvenir items. The tax was lowered to P968.

In her letter, the consumer mentioned that when she claimed another package sent to her home address in Cebu City, she was not required to pay any tax by the local postal customs office. She added that her friend, likewise, did not have to pay any postal tax for a similar package sent through the Manila postal office.

She asked, "Why don't central post offices observe the same postal customs law?"

Another consumer who read Mancao's complaint related a similar experience at the MCO. He wrote to us that he was required by the MCPO customs examiner to pay P932 in customs duty for a package that contained four used VHS tapes with a declared value worth $30. When he refused to pay up saying he did not have to pay anything in addition to handling charges for a previous package, the customs representative lowered the tax assessment to P612.

"Because I needed the tapes for their sentimental value, nothing more, I grudgingly paid the customs tax," the consumer wrote. "Do the customs people get any reward for generating revenue for the Bureau, no matter how they do it?"

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

MCPO customs explain

"We're just following orders," explained customs officials stationed at the Makati Commercial Post Office. Accordingly, under Tariff Heading No. 8520390, all imported taped articles are subject to 15-percent customs duty and 10-percent value-added tax.

The customs officials explained to us that in compliance with tariff regulations, they have to examine, assess and tax all parcels accordingly. "Everything is clearly stated in the public notice posted at the customs area. We ask our claimants to please read "Pangkalahatang Paunawa" before claiming their parcels," the officials said.

Ms Mancao was right when she wrote that she did not have to pay any postal customs tax in Cebu. It's one of the municipalities that don't have customs assessment desks. Here's an incomplete list of places where parcels and packages may not be taxed for customs duties: Pasay, Ermita, Ortigas, Mandaluyong, Quiapo,Caloocan, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Valenzuela.

By the way, we learned from sources that the customs office at MCPO has to raise some P300,000 a month to meet the target quota for tax revenue collection.

No PhilHealth ID card

Jenny W. wrote that she has been paying the Philippine Health Insurance for her household helps and all she gets are receipts, but no identification cards have been issued.

She wrote: "When I call PhilHealth for the ID cards, they always tell me that these are still being processed. Now, as I enter Year 3 for the payments, I am really worried. Supposing my staff needs health service, can they avail of the PhilHealth insurance if they have no ID cards?"

According to Araceli Aguilar, development management officer of PhilHealth membership division, a new processing system for direct registration of members who were not issued any PhilHealth number took effect last Jan. 2. Since the letter-sender did not specify the mode of contribution payment and whether her staff members are enrolled as "self-employed" or "employed," Aquilar could not give specific answers to the queries.

The PhilHealth official advised Jenny W. and other consumers to send letters of inquiry to the following: Membership Division, Phil Health Insurance, City State Center, No. 709 Shaw Blvd.; L. V. Tuliao, manager of membership division at lvtuliao@philhealth.g ov.ph; and telephone numbers 637-9999 locals 1130, 1120 and 1128.

Soiled currency

This is not the first time somebody has asked us what to do with soiled peso bill and coins.

Willie Chua of advance@ info.com .ph wrote: "Do consumers have the right not to accept soiled and tattered peso bill from cashiers of stores? On the other hand, can store cashiers refuse to accept the same? What government department is responsible for changing soiled currencies in circulation? "

We advise Willie Chua and other consumers with similar questions to inquire at the Bangko Sentral currency analysis and redemption division at 524-2777 or 524-7011 local 2296.

The staff members will answer all queries about coins and bills that are not fit for circulation. For example, they informed us that the "Clear Note Policy" classifies currency into three kinds: mutilated, unfit for circulation, and clear notes and coins.

They added that Bangko Sentral will not replace every defaced currency brought to its redemption division. The currency has to be classified accordingly to determine whether it has to be replaced.

E-mail the author at mgiron @csi.com.ph

FIRST THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SKIN PROBLEMS

It's a situation that happens to most of us at least once in our lives. The condition usually starts with a slight itch, a bump or redness appearing on the skin. Not long after, it starts to increase in size, number and intensity. Soon, you find yourself with a full-blown skin problem.

There are quite a number of skin problems you can be afflicted with. Each one varying in symptoms, location and discomfort it brings. But these usually come when the problems have worsened – something that can be avoided and prevented.

In reality, it's easy to prevent skin problems from worsening. But we usually wait until the last minute before treatment is applied. So what happens is the condition has already worsened before we take notice. But if we're aware of the types, signs and symptoms of common skin problems, as well as the first thing to do when these appear, a full-blown problem is something we can avoid.

Here are some of the more common skin problems and the signs that point to them.

RINGWORM. Commonly termed as *buni*, this is a contagious fungal disease that starts out as circular bald patches sized 1 to 6 centimeters in diameter. Initially, there is usually redness of skin, and if left untreated, the patches grow in size and number and begin to scale and crust.

ATHLETE'S FOOT. This long term fungal infection of the foot often occurs on the skin between toes and on the soles. It is common worldwide and adults are more susceptible to the problem. Early symptoms include itching of the feet and the appearance of watery blisters and crusts on the skin. Also known as *alipunga*.

TINEA FLAVA. Locally called *an-an*, this is a skin infection caused by parasitic fungi occurring on the skin and it manifests itself as patches of pale tan and white. When not given immediate attention, this may easily spread.

ACNE. These are small swellings of the skin, often caused by an infection of a pore. Dirt, oil, dead skin cells and bacteria that are embedded deep in the skin usually cause it. These show up in various forms, the most common being pimples, whiteheads, blackheads and cysts.

INSECT BITES. The bite of any anthropod such as a louse, flea, tick, mite, spider, ant or mosquito can result in itchy bumps on the skin. This is caused by the venom or saliva that they inject during the biting process and causes a severe local reaction.

As the symptoms and manifestations of each skin problem vary, so do their forms of prevention. But the common and most basic way to prevent them is good personal hygiene. Bathing daily and washing areas exposed to dirt may help prevent bacteria and fungi from multiplying. Likewise, try and avoid borrowing clothes and other items that have direct contact with skin. Fungal infection is highly contagious and may be passed on through towels, shirts, socks and other similar articles.

But in case it cannot be prevented, and you see the initial signs of skin problems manifesting themselves, don't let it pass. Take action by washing the affected part with soap and water and immediately applying **DERMALIN CREAM** on the area.

Dermalin Cream is an anti-fungal and anti-bacterial ointment that is effective in eliminating the cause of the problem as well as stopping the spread of skin disease causing agents. When applied during the earlier stages, it stops the skin problem and prevents further infection.

And because **Dermalin Cream** stops both fungi and bacteria, it is ideal for more types of skin problems. Whether it's *an-an*, *buni*, *alipunga*, insect bites, eczema or pimples, you need only **Dermalin Cream** to stop them all.

Now that you know the first signs of the different common skin problems, it is easier for you to identify them and prevent it from worsening. You also now know the first thing to do at the first sign of a skin problem, apply **Dermalin Cream. It's your first line of defense against bacteria and fungi.**

Sa unang kati, butlig o pamumula, huwag nang magdalawang isip pa. Magpahid kaagad ng Dermalin. Mabisa nitong nalulunasan ang mga skin disorders katulad ng an-an, buni, insect bites, pimples at alipunga, para 'di na lumala.

Ang unang gawin, mag-Dermalin!

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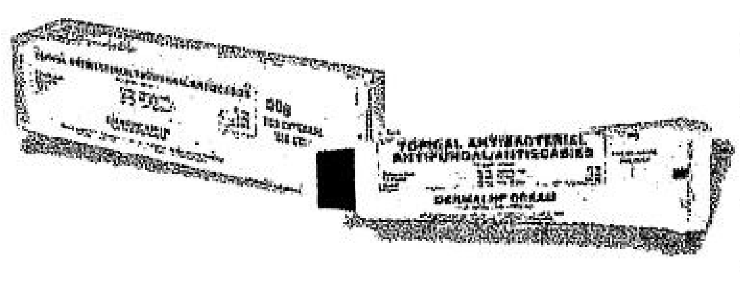

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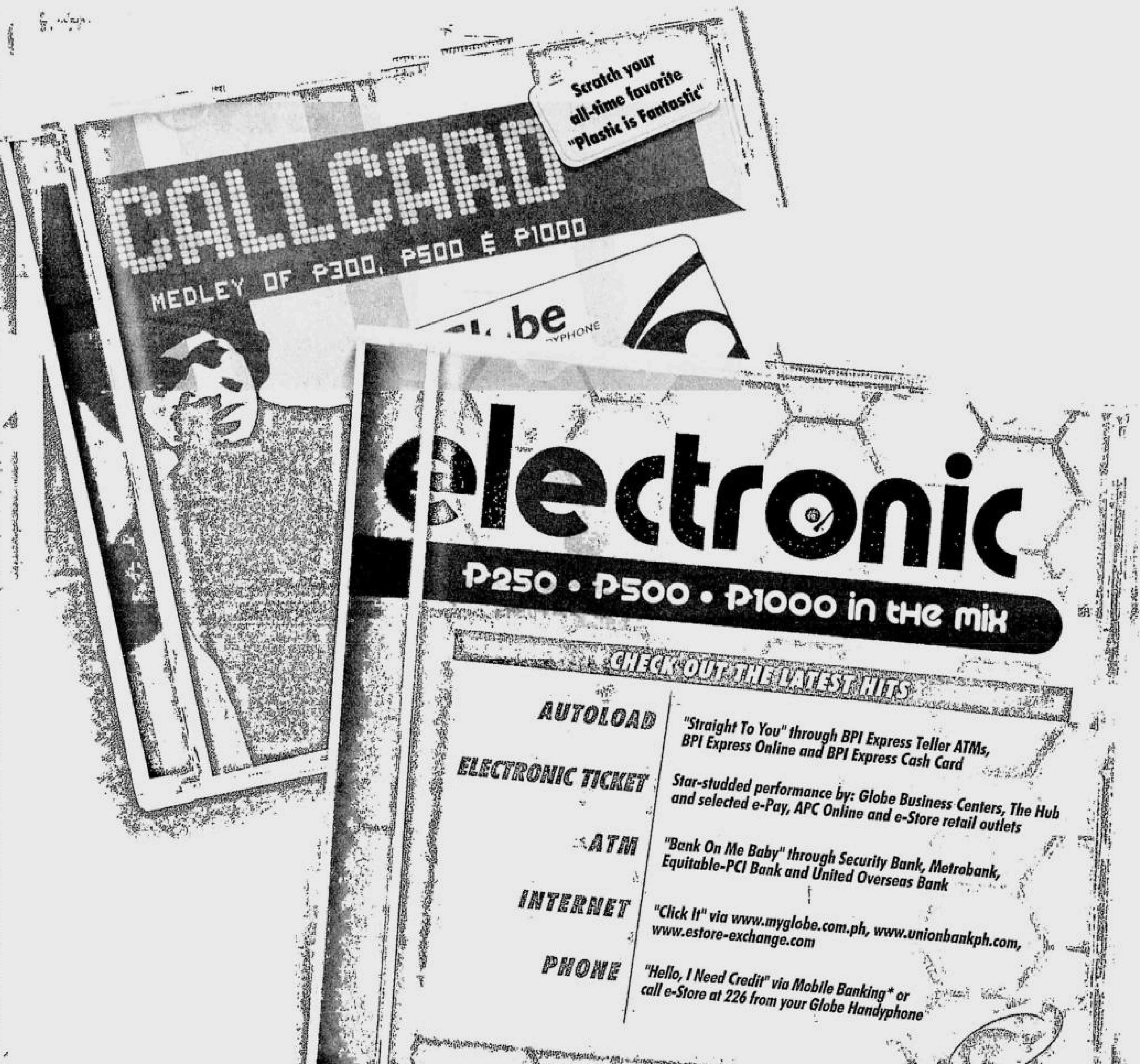
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings & Engagements

Much more than neighbors now

A SHOWER OF BLESSINGS. Oliver and Adelle get rained with flowers.

By Anne A. Jambora

SHE'S friendly, outspoken and waggish; he's quiet, reserved and low-key. Although they come from Maasin City in Southern Leyte, went to the same school, and practically lived just a stone's throw from each other's houses, she did not become aware of his existence until much later.

Oliver Geraldo was a sophomore civil engineering student at St. Joseph's College in Maasin when Adelle Idjao left town to work for a community newspaper owned by her grandfather in Tacloban. On her occasional trips home, Adelle learned from friends that a certain Oliver had been asking for her whereabouts, when she'd be back and for how long. Soon a predictably Pinoy culture took over the small town and Adelle and Oliver were constantly being paired by friends and neighbors on her rare visits home.

The romance took off slowly. "There were times when we had no communication at all—no letters, no phone calls—for six months. The only time we'd have a chance to be together and talk was when I'd go home for a vacation," says Adelle, who has been working for the INQUIRER since 1995.

In 1997, fresh from college, Oliver finally moved to Manila to work for the Skyway project. But Adelle, so focused on her career, moved the following year to Cebu to work with the Cebu Daily News, INQUIRER's sister publication. As soon as the Skyway project finished

MUCH MORE/ p.D4

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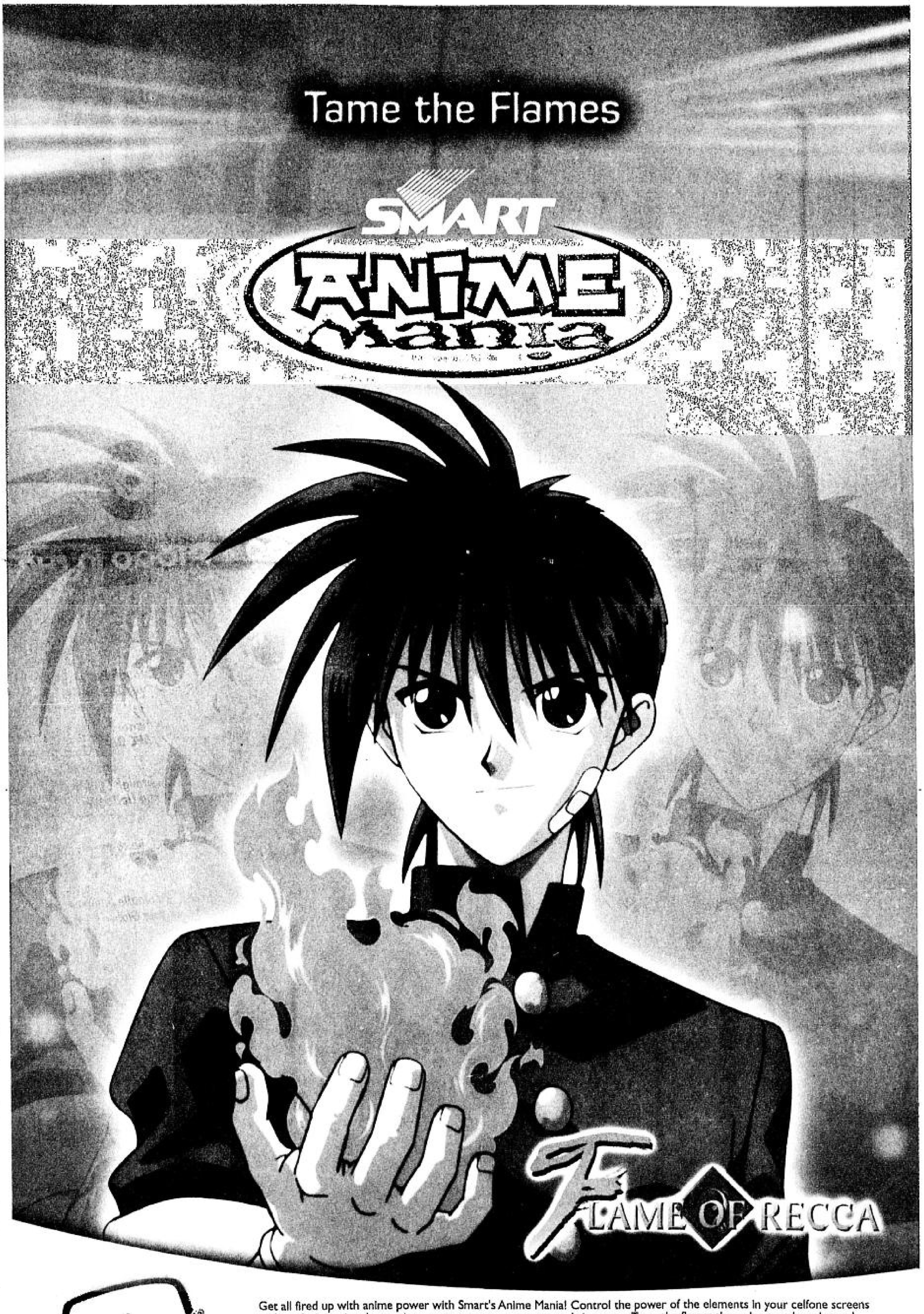

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<logo/group graphic>

To Get Flame of Recca..	Key In..
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Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 235
Group Graphics List of Keywords	GROUP FR and send to 235
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 235
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC FR and send to 235
Picture Messages*	PIC <keyword> and send to 235
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER FR and send to 235
Screen Savers*	SAVER <keyword> and send to 235
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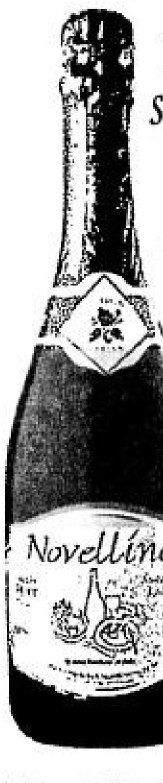
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ROSE Ann Dy leads daughter Tanya to the altar.

WITH THEIR SPONSORS Lili Gothong and Alfred Ng, Connie Revilles and Antonio Soriano, Rosemarie Conlu and Freddie Ceballos, Elvira Go and Bowen Gothong

ALAIN and Tanya at the reception

Gold alloy of a wedding in Cagayan de Oro

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE WEDDING of **Alain Marc Golez** to **Tanya Aldrich** made Cebuanos take the plane and the luxury ship to the booming city of Cagayan de Oro in Northern Mindanao. She is the daughter of **Rose Ann Dy**; he is the son of Dr. **Jose Maria Golez** and **Rafaelita "Ochie" Pelaez de Golez.**

The marriage was solemnized at the Sacred Heart Church, built by the parents of Ochie, the late **Rodolfo** and **Elsa Pelaez**, across their stately home, La Castilla. Candles glowed all over the altar for the evening rites, and flowers bloomed in vases, urns and pedestals. The flowers were arranged by **Boy-Boy Rara**.

Among those who came from Cebu were **Alice Plaza**, who handled the protocol of the procession; and **Cristina Ebrada**, who assigned the excellent sextet from the Mutya orchestra to play hymns during the wedding rites. The beautiful songs were performed by the G-Clef Choir of the Golez-Pelaez family's Liceo de Cagayan University.

Masterpiece

Msgr. **Rudy Villanueva**, who had made a literary masterpiece out of the misalette he penned for the occasion, thoughtfully included a copy of his homily. It was witty and significant, with incisive turns of phrase and all.

Others involved in the wedding were Mass cocelebrants Msgr. **Rodolfo Roa** and Msgr. **Tex Legitimas**; principal sponsors **Freddie Ceballos, Bowen Gothong, Alfred Ng, Antonio Soriano, Rosemarie Conlu** (Joe Golez's dear cousin), **Elvira Go, Lili Lee Gothong** and **Connie Revilles**, Ochie's best friend at the Colegio de la Inmaculada Concepcion (Cebu).

In the bridal entourage were **Mumtaz Nanik Gurnamal** as maid of honor; **Rudolf Golez**, best man; **Magnolia Dy** and **Charlene Tio**, bridesmaids; **Robert Warren** and **Mark Christopher Aldrich**, groomsmen; **Kirsten Dy** and **Christine Carrion**, flower girls; **Mark Anthony Ng**, ring/coin bearer.

RUDOLF Golez (right) was his brother Alain's best man

Candle sponsors were **Sven Serafica** and **Gladys Velasco**, veil sponsors **Romeo Fernando** and **Cindy Lim**; and cord sponsors **Felmar Fuentes** and **Rhea Cagalingan. Mary Jane Castañeda** and **Sandra Misa** were the readers; **Adrian Ding**, lector.

WITH BAYANI and Virgie Reyes, Ochie and Joe Golez, Myra Gonzalez, Connie Revilles and Thelma Rama

The reception was held at the scenic Xavier Estates County Club, whose sprawling property is vast and dotted with fine cottages where many of the Cebu guests were billeted. The elegant assembly of guests, mostly close relations and dear friends of both families, gathered at the grand foyer with its twin staircases.

There were pink flowers everywhere, a labor of love by **Tessie Javier** and **Pinky Chang**. We spotted **Ramon Aberasturi** who nodded, "Yes, most of them come from my son **Niccolo**." He must have acres of them.

As everyone sipped champagne, nibbled on canapes or just wove their way around greeting acquaintances, the skies outside, easily visible through the huge windows, were lit up by numerous colorful fireworks, signalling the newlywed's arrival. They swept in, ascended the stairs as everyone cheered, and went to take their place at the door to the dining hall.

Our little group consisted of **Bayani** and **Virgie Reyes, Thelma Roa Rama** (widow of the late congressman **Eduardo Rama**), **Tina Ebrada, Esper Dacudao** and **Myra Gonzalez y Osmeña**, another school chum of Ochie. We enjoyed every moment of the party, with efficient waiters serving a plated dinner, and constantly replenishing goblets with the fine wine Joe Golez had brought cases of.

There was dancing afterward, with the newlyweds reaping applause as they glided to the strains of a waltz. The belle of the bell was Alain's mom herself. Ochie and Joe looked radiant as they went from table to table in between every dance you could think of—the swing, the cha-cha, the fox trot, the tango!

Mountain lunch

Joe and Ochie were perfect hosts. Most of the guests had arrived a day before the wedding, and they were brought to a mountain abode half an hour away from the city, aptly called Monte Alegre. There, in an enormous gazebo with a fine view of mountains, ridges, virgin forests and verdant plateax, the couple hosted luncheon.

Practically everything on the menu was made in the kitchen below. The *camote*, brown rice and luscious bananas were the produce of the farm, some 30 hectares in size. The native roast *lechon* had a special liver sauce, which was a secret of Joe's family in Iloilo, just like their *pancit molo*. The slabs of grilled blue marlin had just been fished from the Mindanao Deep.

There was a tour of the Liceo de Cagayan University in the afternoon, and after a bit of rest, it was time to dress up once more, for another party, this time at the Golez home, where the garden had been prepared for dinner. Afterward there was a display of Mindanao dances by the university's dance company. However, it rained and so everyone had to get indoors, which was fine; there was enough space, and somehow everyone got to know each other better in the coziness of the living room.

From one wedding comes another, says a Spanish proverb. That the Golez's elder son **Rudolf** was in constant attendance to a pretty girl was not lost on anyone. She was **Ana Gimenez**, who hailed from Manila and had come to the festivities chaperoned by her brother **Jonathan**. It was their first time in the South.

And from one celebration comes another, Joe and Ochie quipped. They are finishing their elegant home in Cebu atop a hill at the Maria Luisa Estate Park, and it should be ready by the end of April. There's already a date chosen for the house warming, which will coincide with their 30th wedding anniversary.

To heal a troubled marriage

MARRIED couples who need healing in their relationship can seek help from a Retrouvaille weekend scheduled on Feb. 8-10 at the Mother of Mercy Spiritual Center, SVD Road, Barangay San Jose (near San Pablo Seminary) Tagaytay City.

A Catholic ministry, Retrouvaille (French for rediscovery) is a program designed to help heal and renew stressed, troubled and hurting marriages.

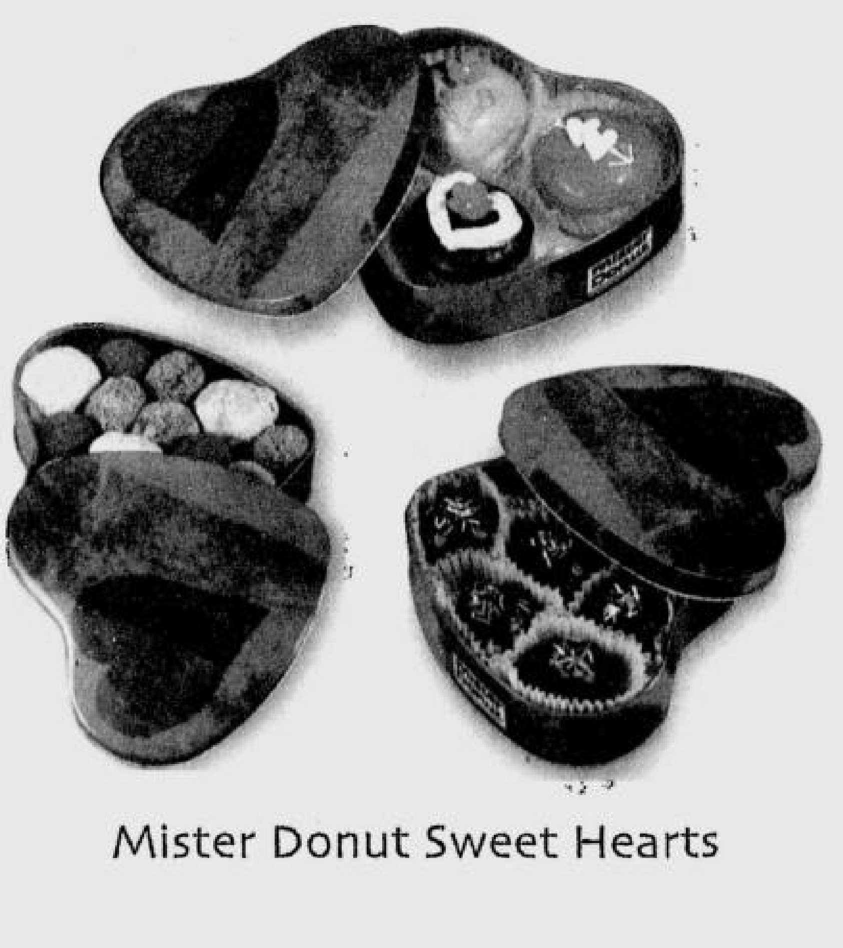
It is for married couples who feel unfulfilled in, or disillusioned with, their marriages and are resolved to put the past behind and work at rediscovering each other in a new and positive way.

Fr. David Clay of the Columban House, Singalong, Manila, is the spiritual director of Retrouvaille. He and three couples who have experienced the Retrouvaille program will give talks during the weekend.

The Retrouvaille program consists of a three-day weekend starting Friday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon, and six follow-up Saturday afternoon sessions in Metro Manila.

Couples who want more information on the program or who wish to register for the Feb. 9 weekend may call Fr. David Clay at 523-3361 or 0918-9020511, Tom and Ruby del Castillo at 931-8413 and 832-3750, Ding and Belen Bauza at 776-4413, Tessie Reyes at 800-5255 (between 10 a.m.-4 p.m.) or 0917-5388970 and Joe and Ting Jimenez at 927-3905 (after 7 p.m.).

Show them what's inside your heart.



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There's no better way to say you care than with Mister Donut's Sweet Hearts. Specially made Junior Donuts, Smidgets, or LoveNuts in a Valentine Can. Give from your heart. Give a Mister Donut Sweet Heart. Available only from February 1-28, 2002. 3-pc Junior Donuts P40, 13-pc Smidgets P45, 6-pc LoveNuts P50. Available at participating outlets nationwide. Say it with Mister Donut

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WITH THE GROOM'S FAMILY. Brothers engineer Manuel Owen and Lemuel and parents Trinidad and Manuel Geraldo

WITH THE BRIDE'S GRANDPARENTS Dading Idjao, Salud Arnaiz, Agustin Arnaiz Sr. and Francisco Idjao Sr.

Much more than neighbors now

From page D1

and his contract expired, Oliver went to Cebu in May 1999 to review for the board exams. Still thinking of her career, Adelle decided to return to the INQUIRER, where she is now a software engineer. Finally, after passing the board and jobs that took him from Butuan to Maasin, Oliver found work in Batangas—a tad closer at last to Adelle, who was working in Makati.

The long chase came to a halt on Dec. 29, 2001, when Oliver and Adelle exchanged "I dos" in solemn rites officiated by Fr. Dennis Cagantas at Our Lady of Assumption in the Hills Parish Church, Barangay Asuncion, Maasin. Engineer Boni Salubre, the couple's friend, rendered love songs for the couple. Bible bearer was Adelle's mentally handicapped aunt, Mary May Arnaiz.

Friends and relatives from Manila, Cebu, Tacloban, Surigao and abroad graced the couple's special occasion: bridesmaids Michelle Fabio and Elynn Rich; Jade Gonzales, Adelle's childhood friend who visited Maasin after a 16-year absence; and engineer Francis Idjao, who flew in from Saudi Arabia. Best men were the groom's brothers, Lemuel and Owen Geraldo, while maids of honor were Adelle's bosom friends, Almie Miras and Elsie Rodas.

Close to 400 guests attended the reception at the Casa Ampil Pensionne. There was a traditional first dance when guests started pinning money on both the groom's and bride's clothes, the cutting of the cake and the ceremonial toast.

Oliver is the son of Manuel and Trinidad Dayola Geraldo, while Adelle is the daughter of Adriano Idjao and Eleanor A rnaiz Gamboa (both remarried).

After the reception, the couple went home to Adelle's place where they partied with relatives and close friends until 5 a.m. The honeymoon will have to wait until summer when Boracay beckons.

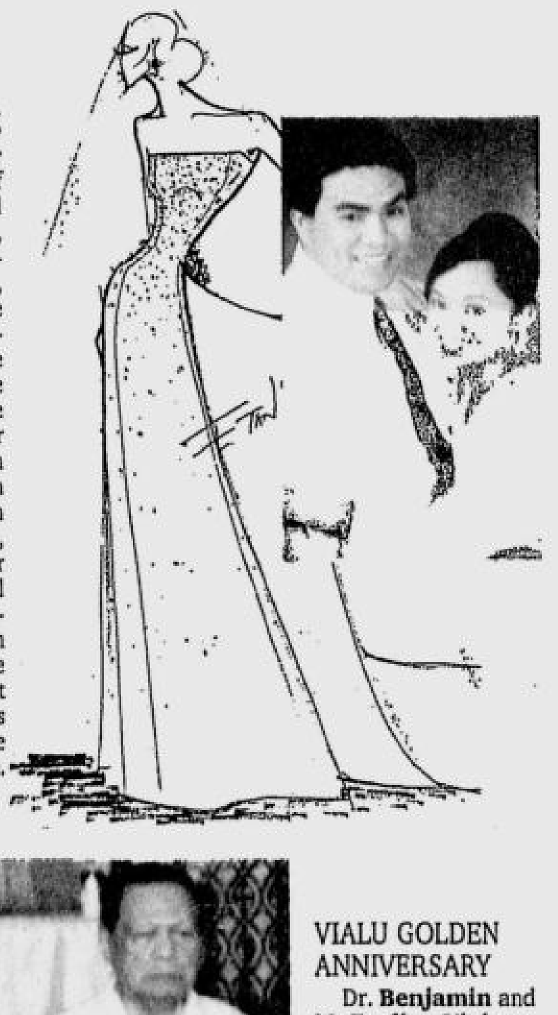
WITH THE BRIDE'S FAMILY. Sisters Jaja, Jasmine and Janna Idjao, Joan Montederamos, mother Eleanor, father Adriano, brothers Joel Idjao, Ceasar, Benjie and Ronald Gamboa

WITH CHILDHOOD friends and maids of honor Elsie Rodas and Almie Miras

WITH PRINCIPAL SPONSORS (front row, from left) engineer Emma Gonzalez, Joji Crispo, Eulogia Duarte, Cora Roxas, Priscila Sampayan, Conchita Napuli, Eulalia Pichay, Deedee Felices, Siony Capao and Dr. Remedios Carbonilla-Ah; (second row, from left) Federico Mariano, Jani Arnaiz, Nestor Geraldo, engineer Francis Idjao, James Arnaiz, engineer Lino Gonzales, Vicente Tubo, Felipe Santiago, Arturo Duarte and Bonifacio Garces Jr.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Pleas the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names ents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related inform Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least one before the wedding at the Philippine Daily Inquirer, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Post Office 1263 Makati City. This will be printed depending on space av ity and at no cost to the sender.*

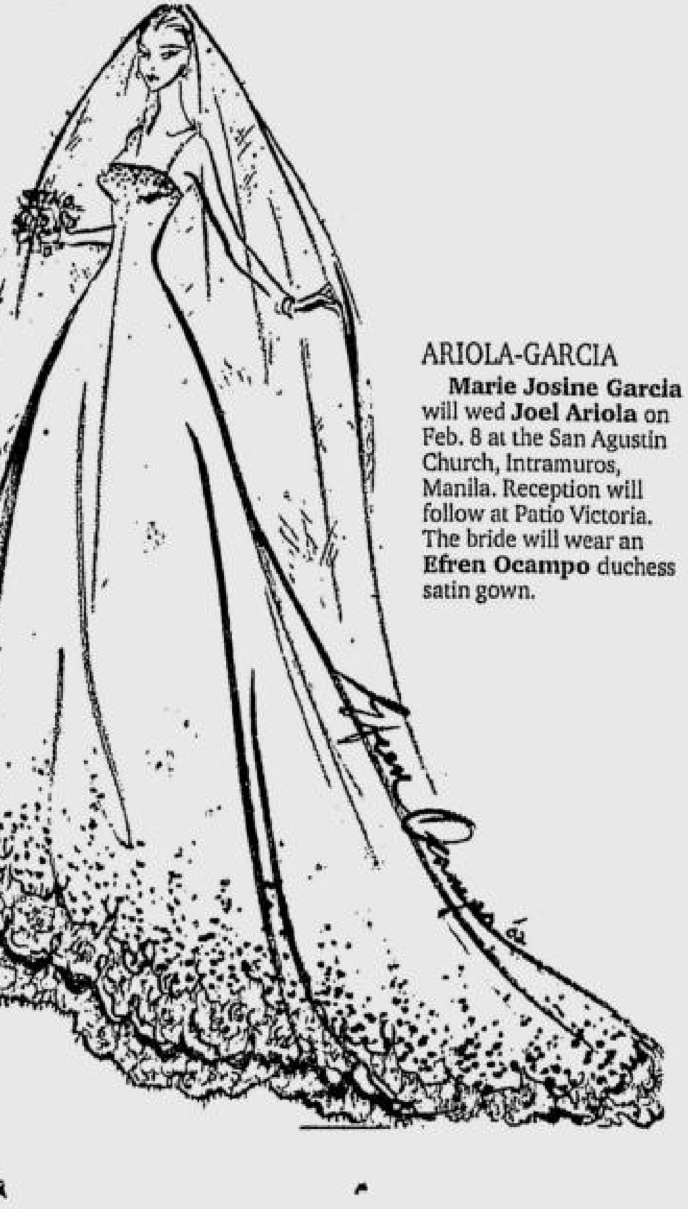


SULIT-LOPEZ

Alexander Sulit, son of **Arsenia Sulit**, wed **Noreen Lopez,** daughter of newsman **Tony Lopez,** on Feb. 2 at the Hotel Inter-Continental poolside garden. The bride wore a bone-white strapless bustier column gown in American satin embellished with cut-glass crystals, seed pearls, caviar beads and crystal palettes. A detachable chapel train stretched to the bodice by a bouquet of silk flowers completed the ensemble.

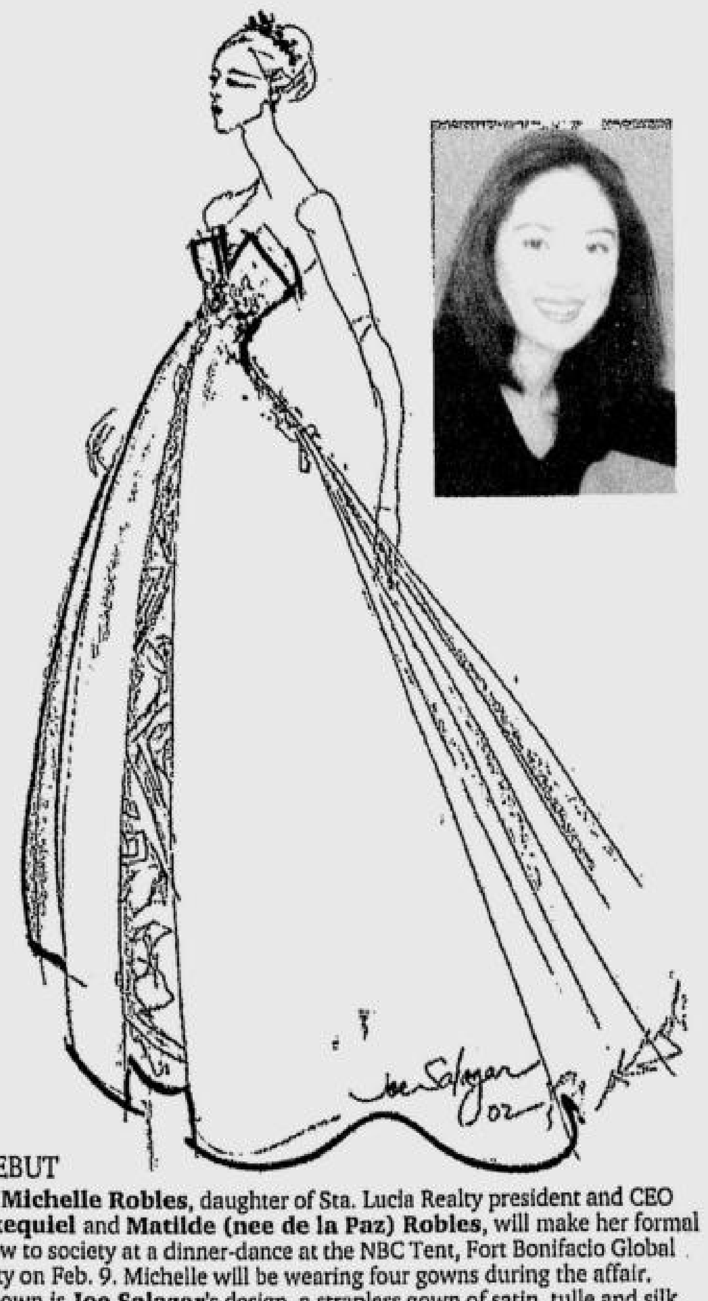
VIALU GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Dr. **Benjamin** and Ms **Evelina Vialu** celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Dec. 17, 2001 at the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Church, Retiro, QC. The couple was feted by their children, grandchildren, relatives and friends at the reception held at the Shangri-La Restaurant, West Avenue, QC.



ARIOLA-GARCIA

Marie Josine Garcia will wed **Joel Ariola** on Feb. 8 at the San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at Patio Victoria. The bride will wear an **Efren Ocampo** duchess satin gown.



DEBUT

Michelle Robles, daughter of Sta. Lucia Realty president and CEO **Exequiel** and **Matilde (nee de la Paz) Robles**, will make her formal bow to society at a dinner-dance at the NBC Tent, Fort Bonifacio Global City on Feb. 9. Michelle will be wearing four gowns during the affair. Shown is **Joe Salazar**'s design, a strapless gown of satin, tulle and silk organza with multicolored beadings in high-tech pattern. The other designers doing Michelle's gowns are **Inno Sotto, Patrice Ramos** and **Larry Espinosa**.

FEB '02
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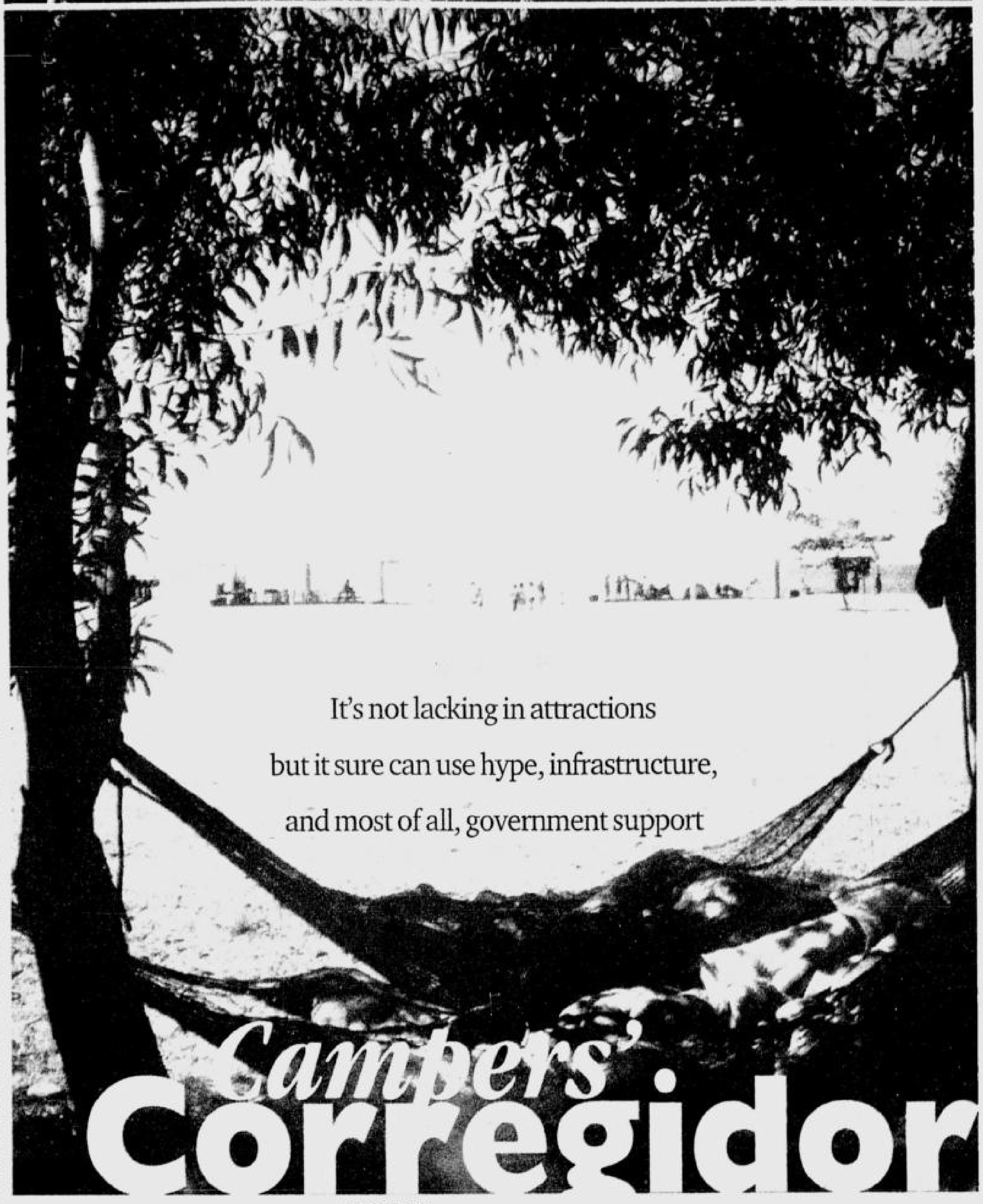
www.oxygentm.com

TRAVEL

Rosario A. Garcellano, Editor



Campers' Corregidor

It's not lacking in attractions but it sure can use hype, infrastructure, and most of all, government support

By Bibsy M. Carballo

IF the Corregidor of our high school field trips evoked images of heroism and death, and the sight of armory forever stilled by time raised goose bumps, the Corregidor of today is bent on surviving as testimony to all these while reinventing itself as a fully rounded travel destination.

Hordes of students as well as American and Japanese tourists still troop there on day trips for its historical value, but the Corregidor Foundation and the Sun Cruises to which it has been leasing the island's facilities since 1995 are determined to change the state of things. After the six-room Corregidor Inn was upgraded into a hotel in 1990 with 20 standard rooms and one suite, and 16 cottages opened on a beachfront resort in 1994, the attractions came to include nature treks, camping, a Light and Sound show at the Malinta Tunnel (the island's most famous), sunrise and sunset watching, and excursions to neighboring fortified islands. An aviary was also established.

Still, development is at a snail's pace. The guides bewail the fact that most visitors come in the morning, look at the tunnels and the 20-gun emplacements and monuments, and return home in the afternoon. They say the stories of ghosts in the ruins are frightening potential visitors from staying the night. But surely there are other factors.

Corporate seminars and school campouts serve to support the hotel and resort facilities, which experience peak occupancy only on Bataan Day (April 9) and during Holy Week.

Which is a pity, really, according to Syver (for Severino Paguio Valenzuela Jr.), who, for the past seven years, has been chief and solitary guide to the more adventurous visitors.

Syver lists six easy-to-rigorous available trails on the island that combine nature tripping and a visit to a gun emplacement. If on our excursions on the *tranvia* (the local tour bus) we encounter monkeys crossing the roads in Subic, he tells us that Corregidor has exactly the same flora and fauna (monkeys, deer, wild chickens or *labuyo*, geckos or *tuko*, pythons, birds and migratory bats). And yet Subic is years ahead of Corregidor in terms of tourism.

Corregidor has been awarded the status of a national park, where gaming is forbidden. But the aviary, while interesting in its collection of parrots, leaves much to be desired. It actually looks more like a poor man's zoo although it has recently been improved and 32 new birds—local hawks or *lawin*—added. And, of course, compared to Subic, it lacks the hype, the improvements, the infrastructure, and the government support that can heighten its possibilities.

Campsites have been designated at the Youth for Peace flatlands (with a capacity for 2,000 persons and with 60 showers and toilets), and the South Beach (3,000-plus, with 200 showers and toilets). Once, 5,000 members of the Singles for Christ brought their tents and camped at the South Beach for five days and nights. But these occasions are few and far between.

Otherwise, pitching a tent, stringing up a hammock or laying out a sleeping bag is allowed anywhere on the island as long as the Corregidor Foundation is informed of it (for security reasons, says Syver). To pitch a tent at the Youth for Peace grounds, the fee is P30 per person.

During our stay, we saw hammocks in various cool spots, tents under waiting sheds, and backpackers camping out at the batteries. But Syver says the Topside is the best site for pitching a tent. So called because it's the highest point—628 feet above sea level—on the island, the Topside also offers the best view of the sunrise. It is adjacent to the Pacific War Memorial and its eternal flame, constructed in 1968 at a purported cost of $1.23 million.

Campers on a budget can take the Sun Cruises ferry for the comfortable air-conditioned hour-long trip. The fee for the round trip is now P650, down from P750, and includes a guided island tour. There is also an optional buffet lunch for P450. Or they can take the ferry at the Corregidor Visitors Information Center at the CCP Complex for P500. For either option there is a P150 entrance fee. They can bring provisions and cook at their campsite, or take their meals at various eateries on the island.

But beyond the adventurous, few are aware of these possibilities. Other activities have to be developed, like sailing regattas (as our companion sailor Evelyn Cayaban pointed out), promotional tours on special occasions (like an Easter Egg Hunt *cum* orienteering exercise during Holy Week), and cultural shows at the hotel, beachfront or wharf.

And, of course, the destination has to be marketed more imaginatively and aggressively.

Even in the historical component, apart from the Light and Sound show at Malinta Tunnel laterals, no further attempts have been made at enhancing the existing landmarks. (We chanced upon a proposal submitted by Adriana Agcaoili to Tony Espejo of Bulwagang Gantimpala and the Department of Tourism that provided an interesting blueprint of what was possible in terms of dramatizing the historical element. The proposal called for a living tableau created by actors garbed in costumes of the period that could explain better what each gun, ruin, or monument stood for.)

Upon our arrival at the ferry wharf in Corregidor, there was not even the otherwise obligatory dancer in native costume who, however crudely, manages to define the country and the people.

We sense an anxiety in Syver, who has come to love the island and knows its every nook and cranny. He is thinking of giving up and getting a seaman's job. There is a note of futility in his voice. He asks, If Mt. Pinatubo has become a destination of hikers, why not Corregidor, with its natural forest and terrain and its history?

The last time we looked, Syver is still at Corregidor, still guiding visitors, still handling the hiking trips—and still in anguish over the future of his beloved island.

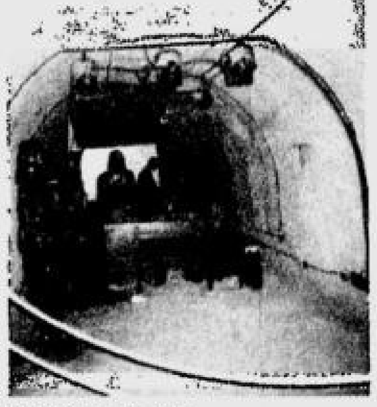
The Corregidor of campers and hikers is still waiting to be discovered. But for Syver, the waiting seems to be eternal.

For information on tours, call the Corregidor Visitors' Information Center at 834-5048; the Corregidor Foundation at 525-3420 or 525-3429; or Sun Cruises at 831-8140.

HAPPINESS is a hammock under a shady tree.

UNDERGROUND, Syver tells visitors a bit of history.

GHOSTS are said to roam in this building that was once a hospital.



THIS is part of the diorama at the Light and Sound show in the Malinta Tunnel.

KIDS and nanny greet the day at the Topside.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Flavors of the season

HOLIDAY Inn Manila is offering a "Heart to Heart" Valentine package on Feb 13-15 exclusively for local residents only.

The package includes superior room accommodations, a dinner buffet for two with a glass of wine at Café Coquilla, and breakfast the morning after.

The first 10 to make reservations will receive special gifts. Dinner reservations are required for the 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. seatings.

Interested parties may call 526-1212 extensions 2343 or 2340, fax to 526-5566 or e-mail reservations@manila.holiday-inn.com.ph.

* * *

AT THE Island Cove Resort and Leisure Park in Cavite, weekday and weekend packages (including room, breakfast for two, welcome drinks and use of several resort facilities) are available the whole month for P2,200 and P2,600, respectively.

On Feb. 13, 14 and 15, couples will be pampered with such perks as breakfast in bed, a 25-percent discount on massage service, goodnight sweets and red wine, among others. But a no-frills, room-only package is available for P1,500.

Lovers can have their dream date on Valentine's Day in a garden setting at Marimar. On Feb. 15, there's a special Valentine show, "Weight & See," at the Purple Ostrich Bar, Café, Disco and Concert Hall, featuring Marissa Sanchez and Fat Sess.

Call (02) 810-3732/810-3740/810-5351 or (046) 434-0210 or (02) 810-3718/810-3764. Or visit www.islandcovephil.com.

* * *

IF you and your significant other are going to Subic, Legenda Hotel and Legenda Suites are offering a suite room for P2,142+, inclusive of breakfast for two, on Feb. 14-16. Dinner is scheduled on Feb. 14 at Le Café or Museum Restaurant for P900+, inclusive of a bottle of red wine, heart-shaped doughnuts, two bottles of mineral water, a tulip stem and a souvenir photo.

You can also welcome the Chinese New Year and the water horse at Legenda on Feb. 10-16. Call 732-9888.

* * *

AT ASTORIA Plaza on J. Escriva Drive (formerly Amber) at the Ortigas Business District, you can take overnight accommodations for two in a one-bedroom suite for P2,950++. The fee covers buffet breakfast for two and dinner for two at Café Astoria. The promo period lasts until Feb. 28.

Special Valentine lunch and dinner menus prepared by executive chef Lorenzo Agliam and including a glass of sparkling wine and special gifts for the women will be available at Café Astoria on Feb. 13-15. The Valentine's Day lunch buffet will feature international favorites and will include bottomless iced tea.

Call 687-1111.

* * *

YOU can take your darling or your whole family to the Dusit Hotel Nikko Manila, which is offering Valentine room packages from Feb. 13 to Feb. 16.

All Dusit Fountains Card members will be given a 5-percent discount on top of all existing room rates. (All rates are inclusive of customary service charge and applicable government taxes.) Children 12 years old and below who are sharing a room with their parents will not be charged. An additional person will be charged P800 (subject to service charge and government taxes) and provided with an extra bed and buffet breakfast.

Call 819-2559 or 867-3333 extensions 3205/3131 to 3133; fax to 893-2479; or e-mail salesprmnl@dusit.com.

* * *

OR why not take off with your loved one for a Valentine celebration?

Adam's Express Travel offers three choices:

- Singapore on Feb. 16, in time for the Chingay Festival featuring an international parade of 4,000 participants in floats and costumes.
- Thailand, also on Feb. 16, including a special tour of the Grand Palace in Bangkok, visits to the famed Noong Nooch Garden and a huge orchid farm, and shopping at various markets.
- Exotic Morocco, Spain and Portugal, starting on Feb. 18 and covering Fatima, Granada (and its grand Islamic architecture), Madrid, Sevilla, Toledo, Marrakesh, Casablanca and Fez, among others.

Call 521-1651/38.

BORACAY SPLASH

You can now enjoy the pleasures of the world-famous Boracay through the fixed-rate promo that all three Lorenzo Resorts (Main, South and Villas) are offering all year. The promo includes a minimum stay of three days and two nights. For inquiries, call 926-3958 or 928-0719; e-mail boracay@info.com; or visit Lorenzo@e-boracay.com.

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DIAL 1-908-1-143-444 Nationwide. Open 24 Hours.

Press 1: Listen to Joe D'Mango's featured Lovenotes stories.

Press 2: Talk to Joe D' Mango (Tues/Thurs 8pm-10pm) and the love counselors (daily 9am-12mn).

: *Now you can also talk to celebrity counselors, Patricia Javier and Christian Vasquez (starting February), Cogie Domingo and Angelika de la Cruz (starting March).*

Press 3: Chat with the Sexbomb girls and meet new friends.

Press 4: *Leave your message for Joe, Patricia, Christian, Cogie and Angelika.*

: Join the Lovenotes promo from February 1-28, 2002.

: Attend the Singles Party on February 13, 2002.

You can call using any PLDT landline with NDD (Call 171 for free NDD and Security Code activation), Touch Card, Fonkard Plus and Teletipid.

PLDT
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How to join the Lovenotes promo:

1. Call the PLDT Lovenotes Hotline 1-908-1-143-444 from February 1-28, 2002, then leave a message at voice mail no. 888-143. Every 143rd caller is qualified to join the raffle promo. Ten winners will be drawn from all qualified callers. Promo is limited to Metro Manila callers.
2. Prizes include:

3 winners	Dinner for 2 to T.G.I. Fridays Bar & Restaurant
3 winners	Concert Tickets for 2 to On-Stage Greenbelt
4 winners	Gift Certificates to David's Salon

3. The draw will be held on March 8, 2002 at 2:00 pm at the PLDT offices, Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Makati.
4. A caller can only win once. If the caller's name is selected again, the succeeding 143rd caller will be selected in its place.
5. Winners will be notified through phone or via registered mail. Prizes may be claimed immediately upon notification, until 60 days after receipt of registered mail.
6. All prizes can be claimed from Ace Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising, 10th Floor, Feliza Building, 108 Herrera Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. Winners must present their letter of notification and a valid ID when claiming prize.

Join the PLDT Lovenotes Singles Party on Feb 13, 2002, Wednesday at the LKG Tower, Ayala Ave., Makati. Enjoy free drinks and exciting contests. Call the PLDT Lovenotes Hotline, then leave a message at voice mail no. 888-213.

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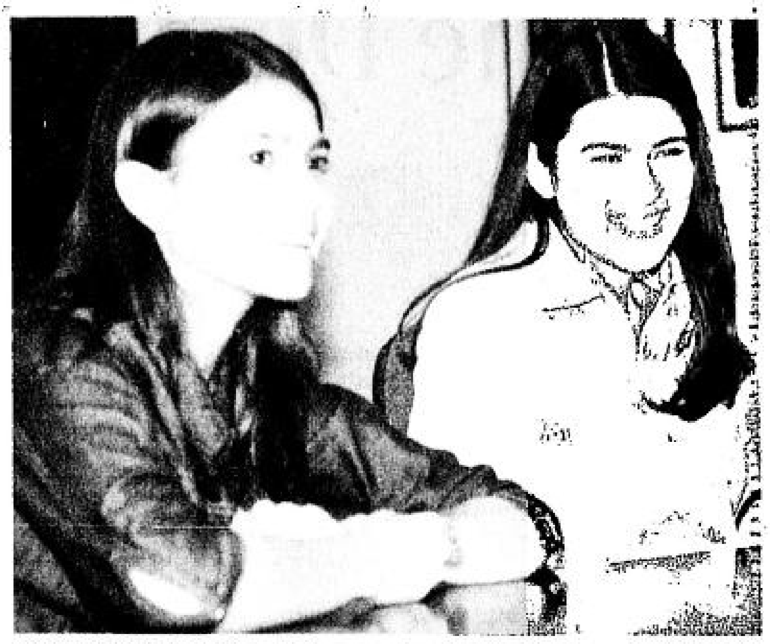
Sunday LIFESTYLE

Everything's coming up roses for the De Rossi sisters


ALESSANDRA (left) and Assunta de Rossi

PLAYTIME

By the staff

THEY are the biggest sisters' act since Janice and Gelli de Belen. Perhaps they are bigger. It took several years before the De Belens started to reap acting awards. In contrast, Assunta and Alessandra de Rossi won theirs when they were 19 and 17, respectively, and in the same film, Joel Lamangan's "Hubog," one of the more important movies in last December's Metro Manila Film Festival.

They're also bolder. Assunta catapulted into the A-list of bankable actors when she did last year's "Red Diaries," a low-budget Maryo J. de los Reyes movie in the tradition of Zalman King, and one of 2001's most profitable movies. Earlier, Alessandra portrayed a girl abused by her father in 2000's "Azucena," for which she won several acting nominations.

Drawing from the gene pool of their Filipino mother and Italian father, the two are stunning lookers and a study in contrasts. Assunta is reserved and ladylike while Alessandra is forthright and tomboyish. The latter also disapproves of her sister's sexy roles. But they draw from each other's strengths and are the best of friends, as of this Playtime anyway.

Have you always been close?

Assunta: Yeah. We're also best friends. *Ang* age gap *namin* is one year and five months.

Hindi kayo nag-aaway?

Alessandra: A lot of times when we were younger. *Pero ngayon* okay *na*.

How old are you?

Assunta: I'll be turning 19.

Alessandra: Seventeen.

We thought you were a lot younger.

Alessandra: *Kasi* she looks old for her age and I look young for my age. (Grins) *Di ba?* So *kung* 18 *siya*, 14 *ako*. (Rolls her eyes) (Laughter)

Do you call her *ate*?

Alessandra: No. Assunta. *Wala kasi sa* Italy *ng ate, po, opo*.

Are you both fluent in Italian?

Alessandra: *Hindi na masyado.*

Were you born in Italy?

Assunta: I was. *Nu'ng* 1 year old *ako*, we moved to England. *Dun kami* for three years. *Dun siya pinanganak*. Then we moved back to Italy where the third was born. Then we moved here. *Dito na ipinanganak 'yung bunso.*

How old were you when you came here?

Assunta: *Mga* 8½ years old.

What part of Italy are you from?

Assunta: In the south.

Have you gone back to Italy since?

Assunta: *Ako* since 1994 *hindi pa. Siya* she went two years ago when she attended the filmfest in Spain.

What does your dad do?

Alessandra: Retired *na kasi siya, eh,* so *pensiyonado na*. He just takes care of our sisters.

How old are they?

Assunta: Twelve and 9.

Are they also pretty like you?

Assunta: The third looks like me and the youngest *kamukha niya*.

So a few years from now, there'll be a new...

Alessandra: Assunta and Alessandra. (Both smile)

What are their names?

Assunta: Margherita Luiga and Isabel.

Do they know you're movie stars?

Assunta: Yes. *Nu'ng* 1999 *lang naman sila umalis.*

What's your dad's reaction to your success?

Assunta: He's very happy *kasi 'yun naman talaga ang gusto niya para sa amin, eh*. Whenever he calls, he asks, "*Kumusta ka na? Marami ka bang* projects?" '*Pag sinasabi kong 'oo,' masaya na siya.*

And the bold scenes? He doesn't mind?

Assunta: (Laughs) He doesn't care. I think *sawa siya sa ganu'n. Alam mo naman sa* Italy...

Has he seen your calendar?

Assunta: Not yet.

Will you show him?

Assunta: Of course.

Has your mom seen it?

Assunta: She was there. She's always with me.

Did she have any comments?

Assunta: *Wala. Hanga lang siya kung paano kumuha ng* pictures, *kasi magaling naman talaga 'yung* photographer. *Hindi talaga bastos 'yung pagkakuha, mukha talaga akong* model.

Did you model before going into the movies?

Assunta: I tried before for Renee Salud, *kaya lang* priority *ko talaga 'yung* acting career.

But now you're modeling for Bench?

Assunta: Yeah. *Nu'ng una kasi* underwear *pa lang*. When I signed the contract, all lines na. *Noon kasi may* sponsor *pa ako*, so *nung natapos 'yung* contract *ko, du'n na ako puwedeng kumuha ng* dresses...

Did Assunta influence you to join show biz?

Alessandra: It was my decision. *Hilig ko talaga, eh.*

"Hubog" was your first film together. What was it like working together?

Assunta: *Kakaiba kasi lalo na sa* personal relationship *namin, hindi na kasi kami lagi nagkikita, kasi laging magkaiba 'yung lakad.* While doing "Hubog," we were shooting almost every day, we grew a lot closer. Bonding *ulit kami.*

Were there protests when you won, considering you bested veteran actresses?

Assunta: *Marami!*

Alessandra: *Bumili na lang sila sa* Recto. (Laughter)

Are you really that protective of your sister in real life?

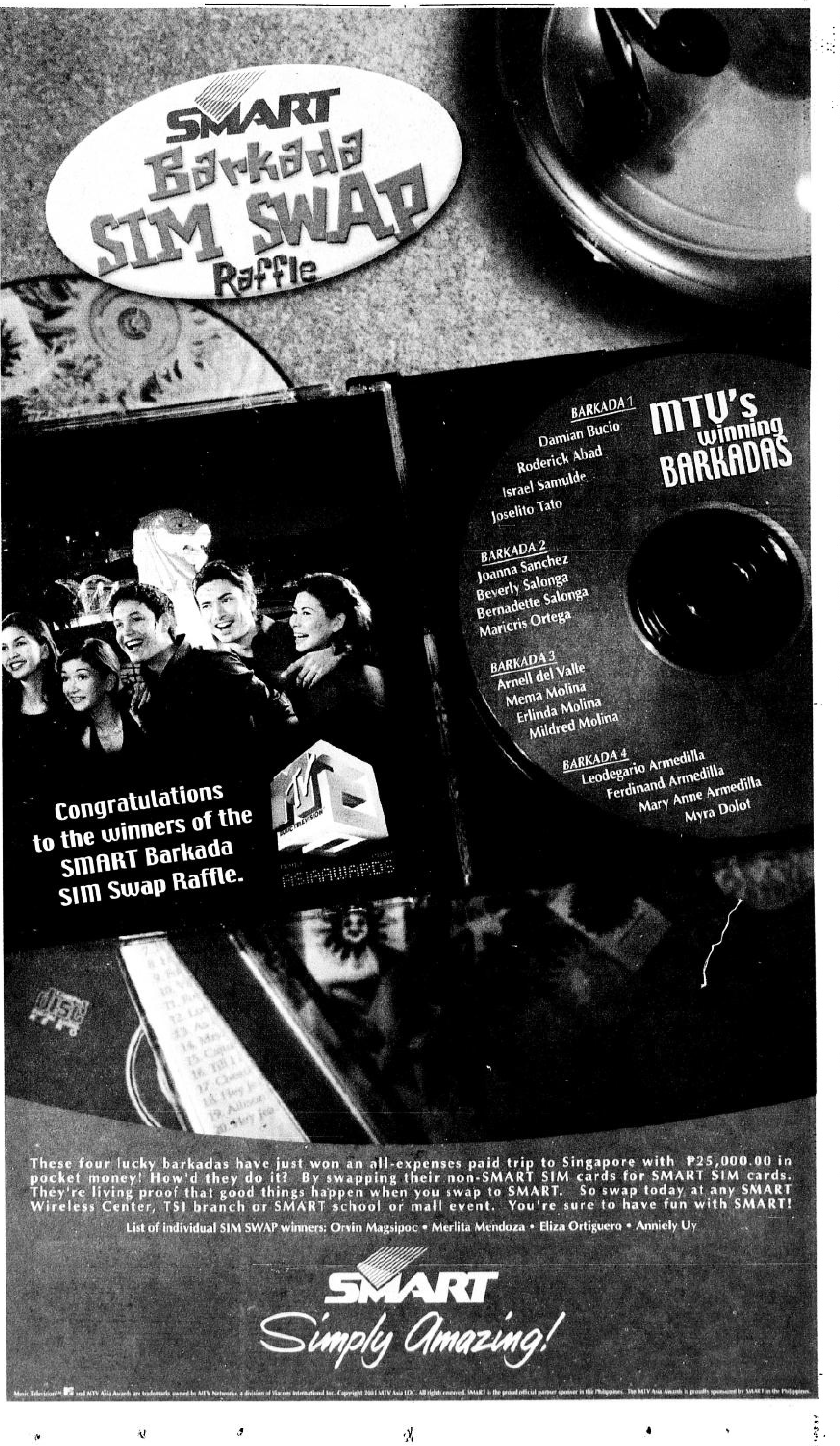
Assunta: No. She's the one [who's protective of me].

How protective are you? Do you frown on her bold scenes?

Alessandra: Yeah.

Assunta: *'Yung* scene *na naliligo kami*, she was the one *na tumitingin-tingin... Kasi 'pag ganu'ng eksena* limited *lang dapat 'yung tao. Lagi niyang sinasabi, "Uy, kailangan ba 'yan? Kailangan ba 'yan?" "Oo. Kailangan 'yan." 'Pag mukhang*

EVERYTHING/ p.E2


SMART Barkada SIM SWAP Raffle

MTV's winning BARKADAS

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Damian Bucio
Roderick Abad
Israel Samulde
Joselito Tato

BARKADA 2
Joanna Sanchez
Beverly Salonga
Bernadette Salonga
Maricris Ortega

BARKADA 3
Arnell del Valle
Mema Molina
Erlinda Molina
Mildred Molina

BARKADA 4
Leodegario Armedilla
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Mary Anne Armedilla
Myra Dolot

Congratulations to the winners of the SMART Barkada SIM Swap Raffle.

These four lucky barkadas have just won an all-expenses paid trip to Singapore with ₱25,000.00 in pocket money! How'd they do it? By swapping their non-SMART SIM cards for SMART SIM cards. They're living proof that good things happen when you swap to SMART. So swap today at any SMART Wireless Center, TSI branch or SMART school or mall event. You're sure to have fun with SMART!

List of individual SIM SWAP winners: Orvin Magsipoc • Merlita Mendoza • Eliza Ortiguero • Anniely Uy

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Everything's coming up roses for the De Rossi sisters

From page E1

hindi kailangan, sinasabi niya, "Bakit 'di ka umalis diyan? Bakit nandiyan 'yan?" (Laughter) *Ganu'n siya, sobra. Natatawa na lang ako.*

Where was your mom?

Assunta: *Wala siya.*

Alessandra: *Tulog.* (Laughs)

You appeared on "Jessica Soho," and your mom said she was in Italy when you were shooting "Sisid," so *hindi ka niya nabantayan*. When she watched the movie, *nasuka daw siya*. (Both girls smile) Okay *lang ba 'yun* that you go on with a project *maski wala siya?*

Assunta: Yeah. *Ang problema lang kasi sa* movie *na 'yun, meron silang ginawa na wala sa usapan. Kami naman madaling kausap, sila mukhang hindi madaling kausapin.*

They shot more than they should have?

Assunta: *Hindi. 'Yun talaga 'yung eksena. Pero* when I saw it *sa* private screening, *talagang kita. Ang usapan walang dapat makita, na madilim. Buti na lang* when it came out in the theaters, *walang nakita. Kaya lang 'yung nakita ko iba talaga.*

Nagreklamo ka?

Alessandra: They had different versions [of the film].

Assunta: When I complained *naman sa* MTRCB, *sabi nila 'yung ni-*review *nila wala talagang nakita. 'Yun ang inaprubahan nila.*

You watched it when they showed it in the moviehouse?

Assunta: *Hindi, pero* people texted me *na wala namang nakita. "Hay, salamat," sabi ko.*

Who directed it?

Assunta: Joey Romero.

So *tinanggal mo na sa listahan mo si* Joey Romero?

Assunta: *Hindi, hindi ako galit du'n. Ang* kine-claim *kasi ni Direk* Joey, *inamin niyang sumobra siya, pero wala siyang magawa kasi* we're all workers.

What conditions do you impose? What are things you won't do?

Assunta: No to frontal nudity *talaga.*

What limitations do you impose on your sister?

Alessandra: *Lahat!* (Laughter) No baring of body parts.

Assunta: *Mukha lang dapat talaga.*

How about you, Alessandra, will you follow your sister's lead?

Alessandra: No. In the first place I have nothing to show. (Laughs)

Assunta: She was the one who objected when "Red Diaries" was offered to me. *"Huwag mong tanggapin 'yun,* please! *Huwag na!"*

Why?

Alessandra: *Kasi natatakot akong mababastos siya. Kasi hindi siya talaga ganu'n. Tapos biglang ganu'n ang gagawin sa* movies. *Ang mga tao iisipin ganu'n din ang ginagawa mo sa totoong buhay. Tapos may mga mambabastos. Baka makasapak lang ako.* (Laughs)

May mga nambastos na ba?

Alessandra: *Wala naman. Meron lang 'yung iba kong* show-biz friends. *Kunyari may diyaryo, tapos makikita nila 'yung isang babae nakahubad, sasabihin nila, "Hindi na* virgin *'yan." Tapos sasabihin ko, "Huwag kang ganyan. Hindi naman lahat ng naghuhubad hindi na* virgin." *Tapos sasabihin nila, "Sus, lahat!"*

Assunta: So *sinapak mo?*

Alessandra: *Hindi naman. Tinarayan ko lang siya!*

What made you say yes to "Red Diaries"?

Assunta: *Maganda naman kasi talaga 'yung* project *at malaki naman ang tiwala ko kay Direk* Maryo J. *at kay* Mother Lily. Actually before "Diaries" *may* offer *sa aking pelikula, kaya lang hindi ko masyadong nagustuhan, saka sobrang liit ng* role *ko para maghuhubad lang, eh, hindi ko naman pelikula. Sabi ko, huwag na lang. Marami pa sigurong darating. Nu'ng dumating 'yung* "Diaries," *eto na, sabi ko. Maganda naman.*

Aren't you afraid of overexposure? With the calendar and everything, what are you going to show next? People expect to see something else, *'di ba?*

Assunta: *Ay,* sorry. (Laughs) *Kung talagang gusto nila ako,* I'm sure *naman... Hindi naman ako takot sa ganu'n.*

But I'm sure you'll be choosing projects in the future, especially after that award.

Assunta: I've always been choosy. *Pero siguro ngayon, lalo na sa pagbe-*bare *ko, siguro babawasan ko lang.* If the script calls for it, why not? *Pero kung hindi naman kailangan...* Like this one with Bong Revilla, sexy *lang ako dito. Hindi naman kailangang mag-*bare. *Hindi naman lahat kailangan.*

Does your fee get bigger after each project?

Assunta: *'Yung kontrata ko sa* Regal, *pataas nang pataas. Ganu'n 'yung* arrangement.

Regardless of how much the movie makes?

Assunta: Yes. Even with Star Cinema... *Mataas na 'yun,* even before the filmfest.

Did you get a bonus?

Assunta: *Sa* "Diaries," *oo. Sa* "Hubog," *hindi ko pa alam.* (Laughs)

How are you planning your career, *kasi ayaw mong maging* daring?

Alessandra: *Hindi ko alam.* (Laughs)

Can you sing?

Alessandra: Yeah.

You think you might go that route?

Alessandra: *Puwede. Pero ang gusto ko talaga* modeling.

How tall are you?

Alessandra: 5'8".

Assunta: 5'9".

(To Alessandra) Do you have a boyfriend? *Si* Polo Ravales *ba 'yun?*

Alessandra: Friend *ko lang 'yun.*

How about you, Assunta?

Assunta: (Shakes head)

You used to date Rommel Adducul? Why did you break up?

Assunta: Because of "Diaries."

He couldn't take it?

Assunta: (Nods) *Kasi* he's a Born-Again Christian... Actually *naiintindihan ko siya.* He treated me like a diamond. *Lagi niyang sinasabi sa akin 'yun, na* diamond *ako para sa kanya. Hindi niya ma-*take *na lahat naunahan siya na makakita ng* body *ko na* supposedly *siya lang ang dapat makakita 'pag asawa ko na siya. Pero 'wag na nating pag-usapan 'yun.* (Chuckles)

Was it painful?

Assunta: Hmmm, *medyo.*

Alessandra: *Ano'ng medyo?* (Laughter)

Did she cry buckets of tears?

Alessandra: Yeah, not just buckets. (Laughter)

Assunta: *Alam mo naman ako,* emotional *talaga, lahat iniiyakan ko. Maski hindi dapat iyakan, iniiyakan ko.*

Alessandra: *Saka lahat kami umiyak. Pati si* mommy, *ako...*

Was there a point *na pinamili ka niya* between your career and him?

Assunta: *Hindi. Sabi niya susuportahan daw niya ako.* Okay! (Chuckles)

Since the year just started, what do you wish for each other?

Alessandra: *Sa kanya, sana mabawasan na 'yung* sex scenes.

Assunta: *Bawas na nga, eh!*

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Maraming, Maraming Salamat Po!!!

Per DOH-BFAD No. 9448, Series of 2001

So after *nu'ng* "Diaries" *siya nakipag*-split?

Assunta: *Hindi. Kasi 'yung* time *na 'yun nagsu*-shoot *pa lang ako. Hindi rin niya kasi alam kung papaano, eh. Nu'ng napanood niya, hindi niya ma*-take, *nag*-walk out *siya.*

Alessandra: *Ba't siya nanood?* (Laughter) *Kasi kung mahal mo 'yung tao* would you want to see her kissing another guy?

Assunta: *Kung malaki 'yung respeto niya sa akin, dapat hindi siya nanonood ng ganu'n.*

How did you comfort your sister when they broke up?

Alessandra: *Wala. Sabi ko, "'Yan kasi!"* (Laughter)

So you blamed her!

Alessandra: Yeah. *Pero 'yung* guy *kasi dapat hindi siya nagsabing susuporta siya. Pero hayaan mo siya. Naiintindihan ko siya.*

You did attempt to patch up things?

Assunta: *Hindi.*

You didn't think of giving up the movies for him?

Assunta: Hmmm, no.

Hindi mo siya ganu'n kamahal.

Alessandra: (Pouts) Hmph! (Laughter)

Assunta: *Eh, kasi naisip ko malabo na talaga. Iba na ang buhay niya ngayon, eh.* First love *niya talaga ngayon si* God. *Di sige! Totoo, malabo na talaga.*

Who's your first love?

Assunta: *Siya.*

Did you study in England?

Assunta: Preschool *lang. Doon parang* play school *lang. Sa* Europe *kasi* 5 years old *'pag mag-aaral ka na.* One year *ka lang sa* preschool, the following year, at 6 years old, grade 1 *ka na.*

***Dito ka nag*-first grade?**

Assunta: There. Grade 4 *na ako dito.*

No plans for college?

Alessandra: *Nagre*-ready pa ako *kasi nu'ng* high school *ako hindi ko pinapansin 'yung* math. *Pagkalagay ko ng* name *ko sa* paper *pasa na kaagad.* (Chuckles) *Bigla ko na lang naisip mag*-aeronautics. *Kailangan daw nila ng* math. *Nagre*-ready *na ako. Mag-aaral muna ako ng* math. *Ay*! (Emphatic)

You want to be a pilot?

Alessandra: Yeah. I want to buy my private plane. (Laughter) *Taas ng pangarap!*

You're going to have to do movies like your sister's in order to afford a plane.

Alessandra: *Sige na nga*! (Laughter)

Where do you put your savings?

Assunta: Mommy *ko ang nag-aasikaso nu'n. Nasa* bank *naman. Ngayon medyo wala dahil* we had our house built in Italy. I-just helped my dad because he needed $20,000 more for equity, *kasi naka*-loan *'yun. Hindi naman kami ganu'n ka*-rich. (Chuckles) *'Pag nakakaipon ako ng ilang* thousands of dollars, *pinapadala ko talaga.*

You're a good daughter.

Assunta: *Siyempre magiging amin din naman 'yun, eh.*

So it's not true that your parents are separated?

Assunta: No. By distance *lang. Mga* three to six months, my mom goes to Italy...

What do you miss about Italy?

Alessandra: The beach.

We have beaches here also.

Alessandra: *Hindi kami nakakapunta. Sa* Italy *kasi* we used to go to the beach every day. *Saka doon kasi lahat ng tao nagpupunta para umitim. Kaya lang namumula lang sila. Ako naman ayokong umitim.*

Exotic *ka du'n.*

Alessandra: Yeah. *Kaya kapag naglalakad ako dun sa* Europe, *lahat sila nakatingin sa akin.* (Grins)

Assunta: *Panalo!*

Alessandra: *Pero dito, chaka ako*! (Laughter)

You have a pretty face *naman.*

Alessandra: *Kasi 'yung iba ayaw talaga nila ng maitim!*

***Gumagamit ka ng* whitening cream?**

Alessandra: No, no. *Pero gusto ko minsan* i-try *magpaputi. Sasabihin ko, "Chaka n'yo!"* (Laughter) *Pero maganda na 'to*, J. Lo. (Laughs)

You have to have more curves to be J. Lo.

Alessandra: *Meron naman ah!*

Assunta: *Tingin nga?*

Alessandra: *Ayoko, hiya ako*! (Laughs)

How about the food? Do you miss it?

Assunta: Actually *hindi, kasi* our mom is a terrific cook.

Can she cook Italian?

Alessandra: *'Yun lang ang alam niya.* (Chuckles)

Assunta: *'Di nga marunong magluto ng pansit 'yun, eh.*

Where did she learn to cook Italian?

Assunta: *Sa lola ko,* mother-in-law. One and a half years *yata siyang nag-aral sa lola ko. Sarap, sobra!*

Do your dad and grandma like your mom's cooking?

Assunta: *Oo.* Very much. *Sobrang galing magluto ng* mommy *ko.*

What is your ideal man, *'yung tipong mabibitawan mo ang* show biz *yayain ka lang pakasal?*

Assunta: Hmmm... *Hindi ako naghahanap ng* qualities *talaga.*

What turns you on?

Assunta: *'Yung pagiging* down-to-earth *lang. Ayoko kasi ng* guy *na mahirap abutin.* I would want a guy *na puwede kong ipakita sa kanya... kung sino talaga ako, eh, at malalaman mo naman talaga kung tatanggapin ka.*

You want someone who's *kalog*?

Assunta: *Oo. Grabe.*

Would you go for older men?

Assunta: *Siguro mga* 10 years *ang* limit. *Huwag naman* more than 10.

How about you, Alessandra, *may* boyfriend *ka na?*

Alessandra: *Wala pa.*

Who's your ideal boyfriend?

Alessandra: *Ganu'n din,* someone who would accept *kung sino talaga ako. Kasi hindi ako 'yung* typical *na babae. Hindi ako* girly girl. *Meron kasing mga lalake na ayaw nila ng ganu'n. Gusto nila 'yun mahinhin, pa*-girl. *Saka gusto nila sila lang ang kaibigan mong lalake. Eh, ako,* I can bond with guys as well as I can bond with girls. *Tanggapin nyo 'yun... Lalake yata ako! Charing!* (Laughter)

Assunta: One of the boys.

May naging* boyfriend *ka na?

Alessandra: *Mga muntik lang.*

Sino?

Alessandra: *Ay! 'Wag na natin siyang banggitin. Tumigil, eh.*

***Sinong* crush *mo sa* show biz?**

Alessandra: *Ngayon si* Wendell (Ramos). (To Assunta) Type *mo rin 'yun, eh.*

Assunta: *Na-guwapuhan ako sa kanya, pero hindi ako kilig na kilig, ha.*

How do you keep fit? Do you exercise?

Assunta: I do nothing. (Chuckles) *Tamad akong kumain, eh. Hindi naman sa tamad...* I can eat anything I want pero very little *lang kasi ang dali kong mabusog. Minsan titingnan ko lang 'yung pagkain,* okay *na po ako. Busog na ako. Kaing ibon.*

If someone would take you to a restaurant, which restaurant would you go to?

Alessandra: *Sa* Pares-Pares. (Laughter) Type *ko 'yun,* promise.

What kind of business would you like to go into?

Assunta: *Gusto ko* parlor *kasi gusto ko ring maging* makeup artist.

You do your own face?

Assunta: Yes. *Kahit saan.* Except pictorials, *kasi sila ang nagpo*-provide. *Alangan naman sabihin kong ayoko. Sa* TV shows *ko,* awards night, *lahat ako talaga.*

How about clothes, *mahilig ka?*

Assunta: *Hindi masyado.* I go for simple clothes. *Siya ang may* statement *talaga. Ako* simple *lang.*

Do you have a favorite designer?

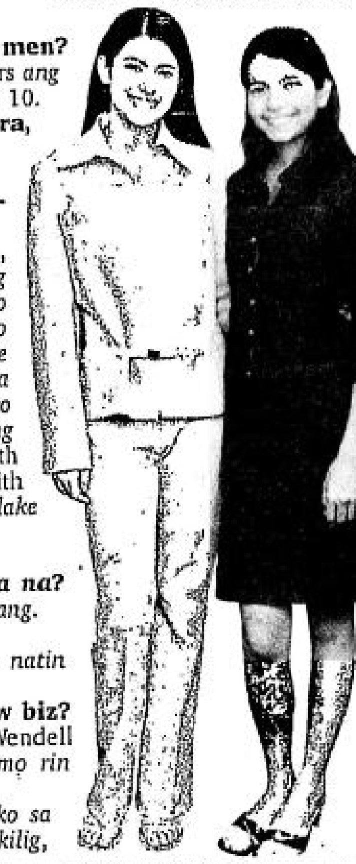
Assunta: *Hindi naman* favorite *pero ang talagang nagdadamit sa akin si* Renee Salud.

***Si* Renee *ba 'yung suot mo sa* awards night?**

Assunta: Yes. Both of us. *Ako 'yung nag*-suggest *sa kanya na ganu'n 'yung gawin niya.*

Alessandra: *Ako hindi. Nakita niya sa* YSL *tapos naaliw siya.* Carry *ko daw 'yung ganu'n. Nung nakita ko, "Oo nga, ano?"*

EVERYTHING/ n.F1



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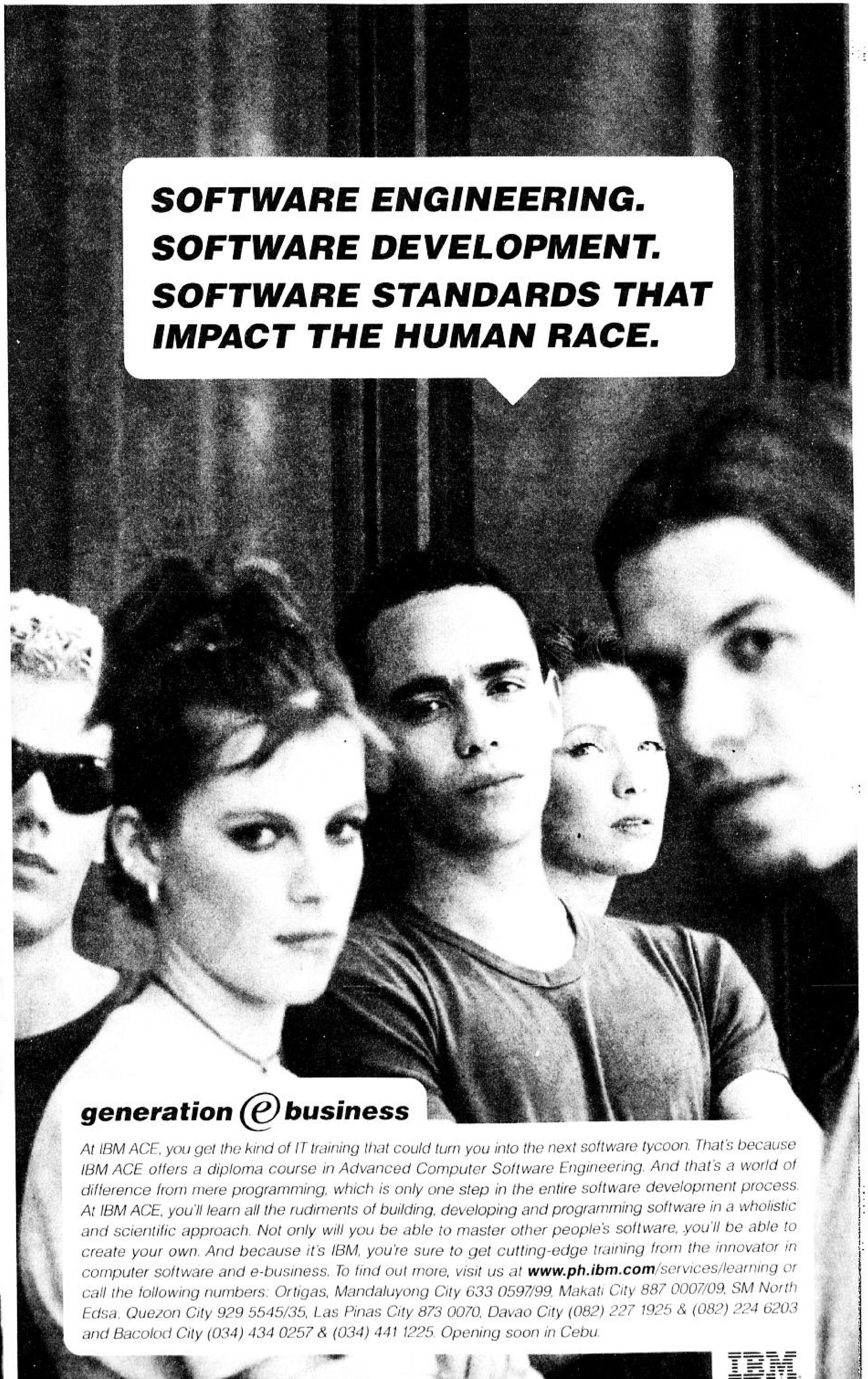
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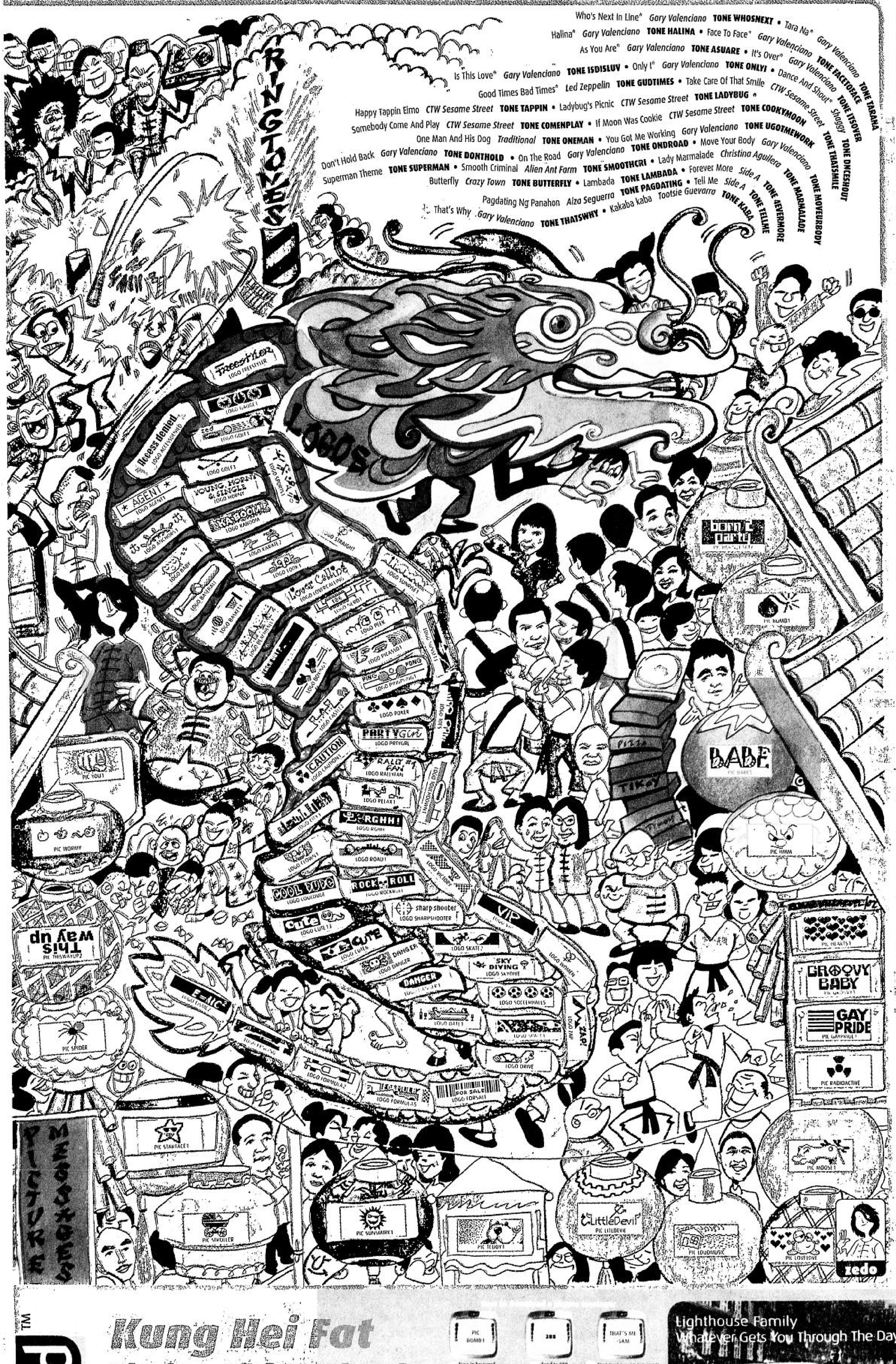

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On The Road	*Gary Valenciano*	**TONE ONDROAD**
Move Your Body	*Gary Valenciano*	**TONE MOVEURBODY**
Superman Theme		**TONE SUPERMAN**
Smooth Criminal	*Alien Ant Farm*	**TONE SMOOTHCRI**
Lady Marmalade	*Christina Aguilera*	**TONE MARMALADE**
Butterfly	*Crazy Town*	**TONE BUTTERFLY**
Lambada		**TONE LAMBADA**
Forever More	*Side A*	**TONE 4EVERMORE**
Pagdating Ng Panahon	*Aiza Seguerra*	**TONE PAGDATING**
Tell Me	*Side A*	**TONE TELLME**
That's Why	*Gary Valenciano*	**TONE THATSWHY**
Kakaba kaba	*Tootsie Guevarra*	**TONE KABA**

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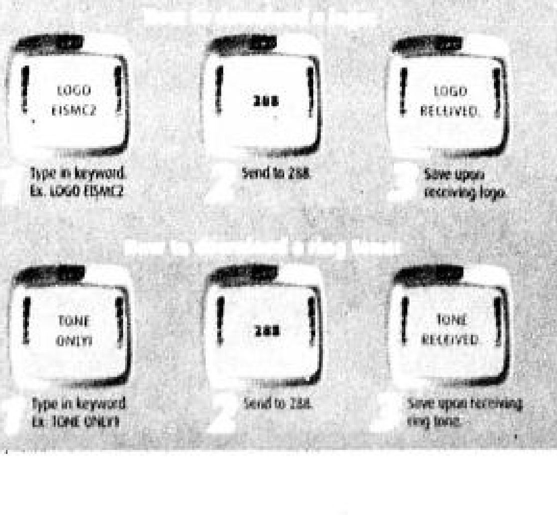
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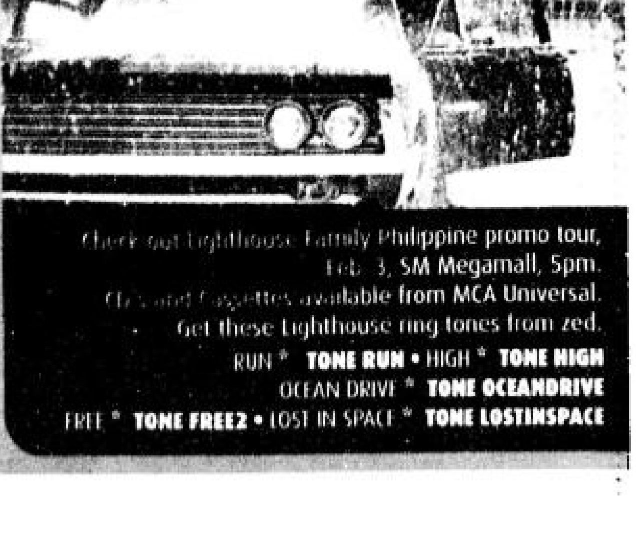
2. Send to 288.
3. Save upon receiving logo.

1. Type in keyword. Ex. TONE ONLYI
2. Send to 288.
3. Save upon receiving ring tone.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For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026
or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Everything's coming up roses for the De Rossi sisters

From page E3

Why did you suggest such an outfit?

Assunta: *Kasi mukha namang wala akong pag-asang manalo, so panalo man lang ako sa suot ko, masaya na ako.* (Chuckles) *Saka ini*-expect *ko maraming nakaganu'n, nag-iisa lang pala ako.* (Laughs)

Sino'ng feeling mong mananalo?

Assunta: *'Di ko alam.*

What was your first thought when you won?

Assunta: *Natuwa.* Mixed emotions.

***May intriga ba kayong narinig, kasi ang mga natalo n'yo mga beteranang* actresses, *'di ba?* How did you react?**

Alessandra: *Dedma.*

Pero meron?

Assunta: *Marami talaga!*

'Di kayo nasaktan?

Alessandra: *Nasaktan. Kami ba ang namili ng nanalo? Hindi naman.*

Saka nasa inyo na 'yung* trophy, *'di ba?

Alessandra: *Bumili na lang sila sa* Recto. (Laughter)

Assunta: Actually, *hindi na lang namin masyadong binibigyan*

EVERYTHING/ p.F4

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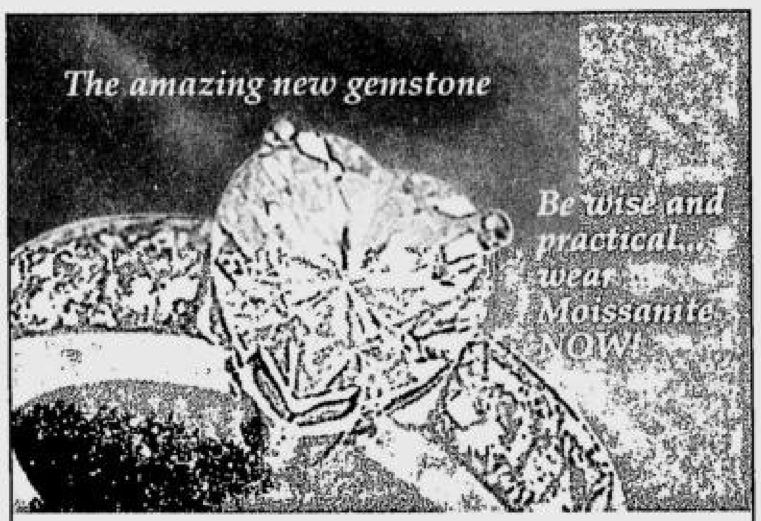

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12-Hour Protection even after eating and drinking

You have just brushed your teeth, and your mouth feels clean and fresh. After a while, it happens - you pop something into your mouth. It could be a piece of candy to nibble on. Or hot coffee during a work break. Maybe it's a loaded snack like a burger. Or a handful of potato chips.

The moment you start eating and drinking again, your mouth loses its defense. It's now easy for bacteria to attack your mouth, resulting in major oral problems like cavities, gum disease, plaque, bad breath and tartar.

Most toothpastes offer no protection against plaque after brushing, much less after eating and drinking when teeth become more vulnerable to bacterial attack. Only Colgate Total has the patented formulation that keeps the antibacterial ingredient attached to teeth and gingiva, giving you clinically proven 12-hour protection against gingivitis, plaque, calculus, caries and bad breath.

Only Colgate Total attaches to the teeth for 12-hour protection - protection that lasts even if you eat and drink.

Stamp out cavities!

Let's face it. Cavities are everyone's problem. If we could keep them at bay, we'll surely win!

The first step in preventing cavities is to find out what causes them. Here are the facts:

Your teeth are covered with a sticky film of bacteria, called plaque. When you don't clean your teeth after eating, plaque gets vicious! They convert the sugar and starch in your mouth into harmful acids that attack tooth enamel. The result: cavities!

What you eat and how often you eat can affect the rate of cavities. Sugar, for example, is present in sweets, fruits, milk and juice. Starches are found in cereals, cake, bread and in many processed foods.

Keep in mind that frequent snacking between meals can spell trouble! At this time, teeth are bombarded constantly by acids. Limiting the number of treats will reduce these acid attacks.

Brushing with Colgate after every meal is also a great way to stamp out cavities. Colgate has fluoride and calcium that strengthen teeth against cavities. Regular brushing with Colgate also freshens your breath - every time you brush!

More cavity-fighting tips? Read on...
* Don't rush as your brush. Make sure your brushing time is not shorter than 2 minutes.
* Don't forget to brush your tongue.
* Visit your dentist at least twice a year. Remember, your dentist is your partner in keeping your smile bright!
* Baby teeth save space for permanent teeth. Taking care of them will make permanent teeth healthy and strong.
* Floss everyday. Flossing gets rid of food debris and plaque, too.
Remember: with proper dental care, you could be cavity-free and have a lifetime of healthy smiles!

Philippine Dental Association an

The partnership gets stronger everyda

Good oral health is a must for our overall well being. Because of this, preventing oral health problems among Filipinos has become a top priority in dentistry.

In 1950, the late President Elpidio Quirino issued Presidential Proclamation No. 235 declaring February 3-9 of each year as National Dental Health Week (NDHW). The mandate's goal: to promote dental health awareness throughout the country.

The Philippine Dental Association (PDA) quickly took up the challenge. Today, 52 years later, the PDA continues to celebrate National Dental Health Week with programs and activities that address the oral needs of many Filipino communities.

Like the PDA, Colgate is also committed to improve the oral health status of the Filipino people. The many years that passed saw Colgate working hand in hand with the PDA in achieving this objective.

"Colgate has always strived for an orally healthy Philippine society," says Dr. Fay Dizon, Colgate's Professional Relations Manager. "We are very proud and honored to be a staunch partner of the PDA in working towards this goal."

The 52nd celebration of the National Dental Health Week has seen the committed partnership of Colgate and the PDA getting stronger. Colgate is a major sponsor and active participant in this year's NDHW activities, including Alay Parada,

52nd NATIONAL DE

FEBRUARY

a celebr

Philippine Dental Asso

"Ngiting Busilak ng Kabataan, Sandigan sa Pambansang Katatagan."

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippine

My cordial greetings and best wishes to the Philippine Dental Association, as you spearhead the celebration in commemoration of the 52nd National Dental Health Week.

Your convention theme, "Ngiting Busilak ng Kabataan, Sandigan sa Pambansang Katatagan," aptly describes your commitment and dedication to the promotion of the Filipinos' oral health especially among the youth. The total dental health care that you endeavor to provide among our people enables them to reach their fullest potential as individuals and as members of our society. I commend the members and officers of your organization for your untiring commitment to ensure the welfare of our people.

As we join hands and endeavor to nurture oral health consciousness among our people through meaningful activities, I am confident that we will find more reasons to smile with the improved disposition and overall outlook that a healthy society afford its members. Believing in the efficacy of our continued partnership in the attainment of our goals, I call on you to continuously employ your expert services, dedication and determination to succeed in tandem with the initiatives of the government to realize our common goal.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!

GMArroyo

ARMYL BANEZ, DMD
President
Philippine Dental Association

Fifty-two years ago, Presidential Proclamation No. 235, Series of 1951 was formally signed by then President Elpidio Quirino, declaring February 3-9 of each year as National Dental Health Week. Its main objective is to instill dental health consciousness among our people.

True to its commitment and year after another, this auspicious occasion was fittingly observed by the hierarchy of the PDA - all its chapters now numbering 98 and its 20 affiliate societies and specialty groups nationwide - with significant themes and remarkable projects to usher in during said celebration.

This years' celebration promises to be more relevant to the demands of the times with our theme: "Ngiting Busilak ng Kabataan, Sandigan sa Pambansang Katatagan". The various program of activities, designed to serve the poorest of the poor, is our main thrust in compliance with our campaign to arouse oral health awareness to our countrymen.

I thank and recognize all the efforts of our chapters and affiliate societies for their cooperation and support to give meaning to the celebration, for without them, we cannot make all our feats possible. Congratulations to each and every dentist who is sensitive to the times for reaching out to people.

ANTONIO CAMPOS
President and General Manager
Colgate-Palmolive Philippines Inc.

For 52 years now, the PDA has celebrated National Dental Health Week with a series of activities that promote dental health awareness among the general public. Colgate shares this vision and continues to be totally supportive of this annual endeavor.

It is with this same vision that Colgate implemented "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures," a global oral health education program that continues to spread smiles to almost 4 million children everywhere. Here in the Philippines, "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" has been integrated in Grades 1, 2 and 3 public school curriculum since 1997. It has given Filipino teachers, children and families the tools they need to make good oral health a permanent part of their lives.

Colgate is honored to be the PDA's partner and remains committed to our common goal of better oral health for the entire Filipino nation.

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Deputy Chairmen	- Dr. Walter V. Del Rosario
	- Dr. Florante V Mena
Area Project Coordinators	- Dr. Antonio G. Gabriel III, Luzon North
	- Dr. Victor E. Abastillas, Jr., Luzon South
	- Dr. Rafael Dave Gerard O. Salvador, Jr., Visayas
	- Dr. Arnold S. Duterte, Mindanao
Secretary	- Dr. Arlene L. Marzan
Treasurer	- Dr. Estellita M. Ayllon

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II. Opening Ceremonies Committee	- Dr. Julio R. Faustino, Jr.
	- Dr. Jaime P. Francisco
III. Slogan Contest Committee	- Dr. Mary Grace U. Sta. Ana
IV. Poster Contest Committee	- Dr. Malou A. Maligaya
V. Consultation Hour Committee	- Dr. Mario E. Esquillo
VI. Arrangement & Accomodation Committee	- Dr. Noese Bunundag
VII. School Participation Committee	- Dr. Raymundo Vinzon
	- Dr. Arturo P De Leon
	- Dr. Carlos B. Melo
VIII. Ladrido Memorial Lecture Committee	- Dr. Carlos B. Melo
IX. PDA Open House Committee	- Dr. Felicidad A. Poblador
X. Cleft Lip Operation Committee	- Dr. Carlos C. Buendia
XI. Publicity Committee (Thimela)	- Dr. Ricky Martin R. Llorca
XII. Indigency Clinic	- Dr. Felicitas Juangue
XIII. Community Outreach Program Committee	- Dr. Elsa D.M. Olea
XIV. Healthy Smile Contest Committee	- Dr. Catherine M. Reyes
XV. Prizes & Awards Committee	- Dr. Ariel A. Bagan
	- Dr. Edgardo B. Manuel
XVI. Food Committee	- Dr. Bien Ray S. Ca
	- Dr. Enrico L. Dela
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XVII. Budget & Finance Committee	- Dr. Antonio G. Gue

PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 03 - SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 04 - MONDAY	FEBRUARY 05 - TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 06 - WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 07 - THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 08 - FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 09 - SATURDAY
5:00 AM-12:00 NN Alay Parada '02 Opening Ceremonies Inter Dental School Cheering Competition (Luneta Grandstand) *Participants - PDA Officers/ Officials, Chapters/Affiliates & Dental Schools & other guests	8.00 AM-9:00 AM Thanksgiving Mass/Blessing of PDA Building 9:00 AM-9:30 AM PDA Open House/Exhibits - (PDA Bldg.) 9:30 AM-12:00 NN BSBF Program-Pledge of Commitment 8.00 AM-5:00 PM Libreng Pustiso Alay ng PDA (PDA Grounds) PDA Chapters/Affiliates' Nationwide Community Outreach Activities	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Cleft Lip Operation (PDA Clinic.) PDA Open House/Exhibits (PDA Bldg.) 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Radio & TV Guestings 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM PDA Chapters/Affiliates' Nationwide Community Outreach Activities	8:00 AM - 12:00 NN Ladrido Memorial Lecture (Heritage Hotel) PDA Open House/Exhibits (PDA Bldg.) 8.00 AM - 5:00 PM Indigency Clinic (PDA Bldg.) 8:00 am - 5:00 PM PDA Chapters/Affiliates' Nationwide Community Outreach Activities	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Poster Contest/Slogan Contest (PDA Bldg.) 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Indigency Clinic (PDA Bldg.) 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM PDA Chapters/Affiliates' Nationwide Community Outreach Activities PDA Open House/Exhibits (PDA Bldg.)	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM PDA Open House/Exhibits (PDA Bldg.) Indigency Clinic (PDA Bldg.) 8.00 AM - 12:00 PM PDA-NCR Chapters' Community Outreach Project and Healthy Smile Contest (Smokey Mountain Project, Isla Puting Bato, Navotas) 8:00 am - 5:00 PM PDA Chapters/Affiliates' Nationwide Community Outreach Activities	5:00 AM - 6:00 PM Feast of St. Apolonia Mass (National Shrine of Sacred He San Antonio Village, Makati C 6:00 PM - 12:00 PM Closing Ceremony & Apprecia Night (PDA Bldg.)

l Colgate

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Theme Slogan Contest, Healthy Smile Contest, Consumer Programs and Community Dental Check-ups.

"Colgate, along with Philippine Dental Association, is very committed in raising dental health consciousness among the general public," says Dr. Fay Dizon. "The 52nd National Dental Health Week is a great time to make this happen - and that's why we are here with the PDA," she adds.

Brush your way to healthy teeth

How long does it take before you replace your old toothbrush with a new one? The Philippine Dental Association recommends that you make the change every 3 months - and for good reason!

Look at your old toothbrush. Its bristles are frayed, bent and worn out, right? That means your old brush can no longer do a good job of cleaning your teeth.

That's not all. Germs breed in old toothbrushes. Dentists swear that after a bout of colds or flu, the virus remain in your toothbrush. Every time you brush, you're actually putting millions of germs in your mouth! That's why you've got to throw your old toothbrush right away.

Let's say you're about to get a new toothbrush. How, exactly, can you tell if you're selecting the right one? Here are a few pointers:

* Choose a size and shape that feels comfortable and allows you to reach every tooth.
* Hard, brittle toothbrushes can injure your gums. Choose a toothbrush with soft, polished bristles.
* For your kids, get a toothbrush that fits their small, growing mouths without jabbing or poking.
* Again for your little ones: let them choose their favorite color and design. This will make their brushing fun and exciting!
* Flexibility is important in a toothbrush. Make sure that the one you get can be maneuvered in all directions, like Colgate Navigator. This special toothbrush from Colgate has a unique head that "bends over backwards" to reach every nook and cranny in your mouth. Yes, even hard-to-reach back teeth.

Don't forget: if you want your mouth to be in good shape, your toothbrush should be, too! It's really a brushing basic that should not be ignored.

NTAL HEALTH WEEK
03-09 2002

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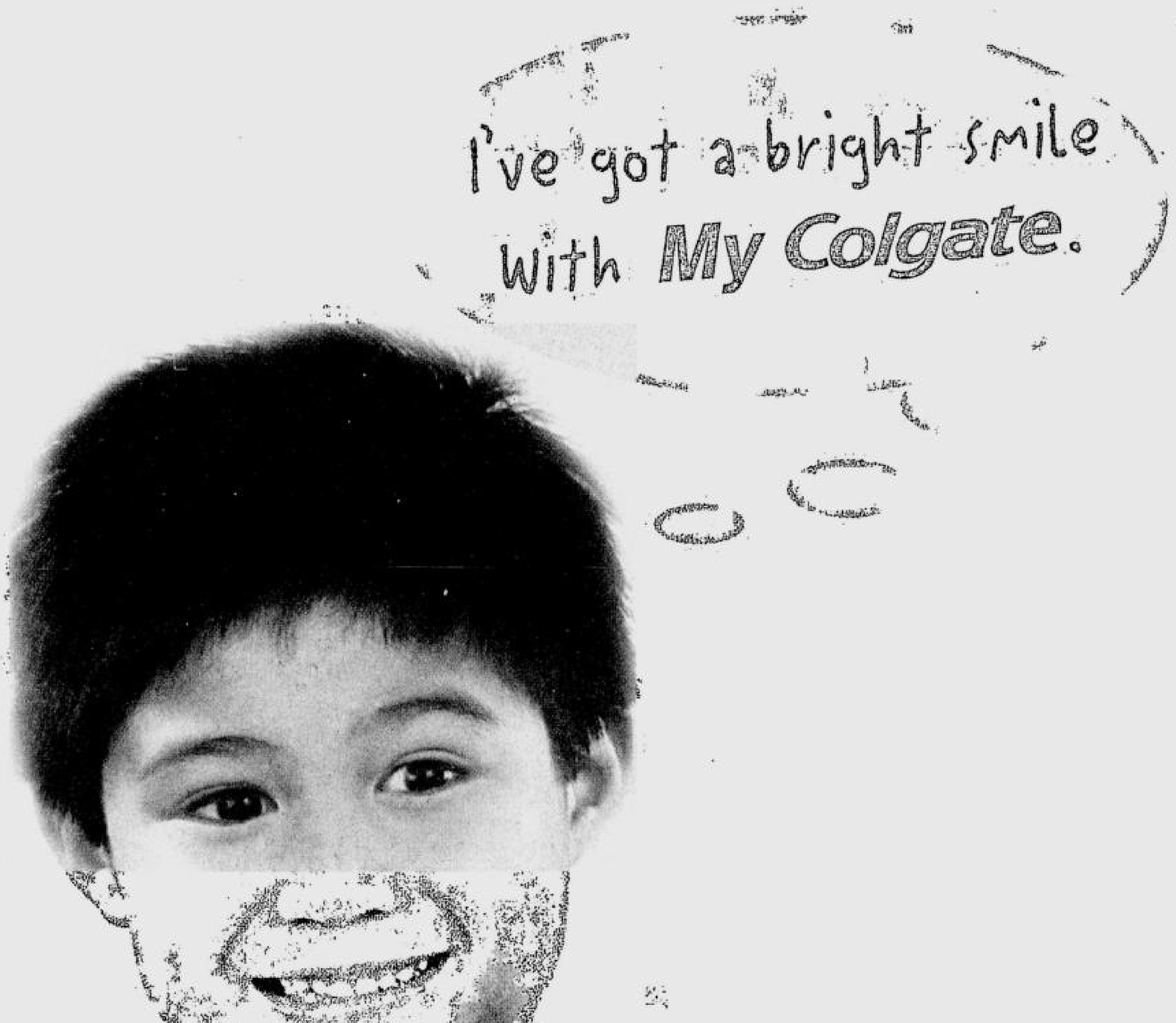
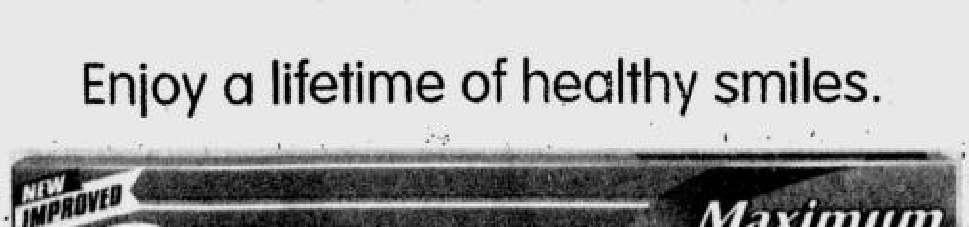
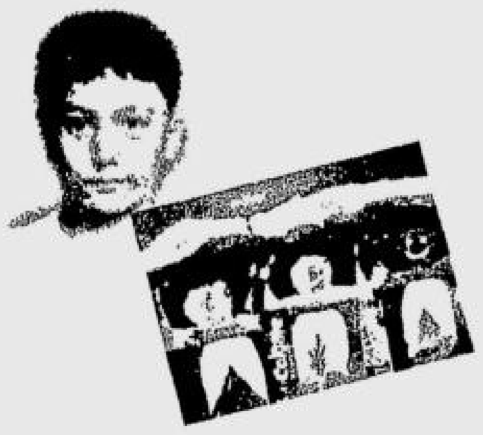

I've got a bright smile with My Colgate.

"I want my teeth to be really strong, and my smile to be really bright. That's why I brush with my Colgate...everyday!"

Enjoy a lifetime of healthy smiles.



Filipino Artwork Graces Colgates 2002 Bright Smiles, Bright Futures Calendar Cover



The uniqueness of Philippine artistry takes center stage as the colorful work of a young, aspiring Filipino artist proudly graces the cover of Colgate's 2002 calendar. It was only a year ago that seven year-old Dave Mark Celum drew a poster showing three happy children waving their toothbrushes in the air, consistent with the theme "Why My Bright Smile Makes Me Happy." Today, the young boy from Calbayog City, Samar has a lot to smile about. Dave's poster bested over a hundred other entries in 2001's "My Bright Smile Poster Contest". After winning in the nationwide contest, Dave became a finalist in the global competition. His artwork is now the cover in Colgate's calendar, along with other entries from different countries such as Argentina, Jamaica and Poland. It may take a while before Dave realizes his dream of becoming an artist. However, at such a tender age, he is already making his family and country proud. Aside from helping on the campaign for healthier teeth, he also inspires other children all over the world to share their talents for a good cause. Locally, the "My Bright Smile Poster Contest" is participated by Grades 1, 2 & 3 students of public schools with the "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" Oral Health Education Program. This program aims to help Filipino schoolchildren overcome dental problems through proper oral health education. It further inculcates proper oral health habits and practices in them.

Colgate
Bright Smiles, Bright Futures

Colgate Comes Out with Great Oral Care Special Packs

In celebration of the 52nd National Dental Health Week, and in an effort to promote good oral health, Colgate recently launched special promotions that will benefit Filipino families.

The promotions, which offer value for money, seek to encourage more Filipinos to heighten their oral care awareness for their teeth and gums.

Participating products in the promotions include selected variants of Colgate Toothpaste and Colgate Toothbrush. These are:

* Colgate Maximum Cavity Protection with 33% more product. You get 200g of Colgate for the price of 150g.
* Colgate Fresh Confidence Value Pack (Two 160g) - Save P16.00
* Colgate Superstar with Free Kool Looks Toothbrush
* Colgate Active Flexible Toothbrush with Free Colgate Fresh Confidence 40g
* Colgate Navigator Toothbrush with Free Colgate Triple Action 40g

Everything's coming up roses for the De Rossi sisters

From page F1

ng importansya kasi parang... nanalo na kami, 'di 'ba?

Alessandra: *Saka kung sila ang nanalo, magiging* happy *kami* for them. *Sana sila ganu'n din.*

Assunta: *'Pag natalo ako,* I would feel bad *pero iisipin ko, bakit? Bata pa naman ako.* But I would never sour-grape, please! *Hindi ko kaya 'yun.*

Meron bang competition sa inyo na paramihan ng trophy?

Assunta: *Wala. Paramihan ng bahay siguro.* (Laughs) *Paramihan ng* properties.

How many trophies do you have?

Alessandra: *Dalawang* acting, *isang* special award. Guillermo Mendoza Most Promising Star...

Assunta: *Ako isa pa lang.*

Alessandra: Best Actress *naman. Ako din gusto ko nu'n!* (Chuckles)

Since the year just started, what do you wish for each other?

Assunta: *Ayokong mag*-expect. *Siguro 'yung* consistency *lang nu'ng nangyari sa akin* last year. *Sana ganu'n pa rin. Puwedeng madagdagan, 'wag lang mabawasan.*

Alessandra: *Sana ako ganu'n pa rin... Sa kanya, sana mabawasan na 'yung* sex scenes.

Assunta: *Bawas na nga, eh!*

Alessandra: *Sana 'yung wala na talaga.* (Deadpans) *Ako naman.* (Laughter)

***Ikaw naman ang mag*-FHM.**

Alessandra: Yeah, *sabi nila. Pag*-18 *ko na daw. Ay!* (Giggles) Excited *daw!*

Assunta: *'Wag kang masyadong mataray!* (Chuckles)

Alessandra: *Mataray ba ako?* Nice *naman ako, ha?*

Assunta: *Si* Alex *kasi ganyan talaga ang* personality *niya. Kaso nami*-misinterpret *siya ng mga taong hindi niya ka*-close. *Tine*-take *siya* in a negative way. *Kawawa naman siya. Siya ang* affected.

Alessandra: *Sila lang ang* affected *du'n!*

Pero hindi siya mataray sa iyo?

Assunta: *Napakataray!* (Chuckles)

Alessandra: *'Pag kailangan, bakit hindi magtaray, 'di ba?*

Assunta: *Siya talaga 'yung palaban.*

(To Alessandra) Where do you get the emotion to play (the mentally retarded) role in "Hubog"?

Assunta: *Wala, magaling siya talaga.* (Chuckles)

Alessandra: *Madami naman, eh, maski bata lang ako. Hindi naman ganu'n ka-seryoso, kaso nga* sensitive *ako. Masakit, ganu'n.* Like, *nu'ng namatay 'yung aso ko. Sa ibang tao siguro, namatay na siya, sige iyak* for two days, *tapos na. Ako,* three years *bago naka*-recover. *Ganu'n kasakit. Naiiyak na naman ako! Tama na!*

What kind of dog was it?

Alessandra: Yorkshire terrier. Four months *lang siya nasa akin. Nagka*-brain virus. *Kung anu-ano kasi ang kinakain.*

(To Assunta) *Ano naman ang pinaka*-painful *na nangyari sa iyo?*

Assunta: *Wala.* Emotional *kasi ako, eh, pareho kami. Pero mas* emotional *ako,* as in *lahat iniiyakan ko kahit hindi dapat iyakan. Hindi nauubos ang luha ko.*

Ano ang pinakamasakit na* controversy *sa inyo?

Assunta: *Siyempre ayoko na siyang buksan ulit kasi malaking tao ang* involved. (Chuckles) *Basta ano... Akala ko* show, *'yun pala iba ang gusto.* (Chuckles) *'Yun lang. Huwag na tayong magbanggit,* please.

How did you get out of that situation, considering it involved a big person?

Alessandra: *"Crayola" lang sila.*

Assunta: *"Crayola"* to death. (Chuckles) *Parang ang banat tuloy ng* mommy *ko, "Hindi porke't may* boyfriend *ang anak ko, may karanasan na. Wala pang karanasan ang anak ko. Hindi talaga puwede."* So *nagulat siya.* Sorry, wrong number! (Laughs) *Mabait naman siya, eh. May* speaker *siya, kaya* quiet *lang siya.* At least *'yung ganu'n lang siya,* cool *lang sa pangyayari. Paano kung iba, mamaya pinadukot ako* or something. *O mamaya binaliktad ako.* That's why when it came out, *talagang* quiet *ako.* And I couldn't say anything against the person *kasi mabait naman talaga.* So quiet *lang ako, sabi ko mawawala din ito.* As long as I know the truth, *'yung* people close *sa akin alam nila 'yung totoo, tama na yun.* It will die a natural death.

So where do you get the motivation in doing daring scenes?

Assunta: I put myself into the character. *Pagdating ko sa* set *hindi na ako si* Assunta, *kaya nagagawa ko 'yun. Kaya pagdating sa* big screen, *hindi ko siya kayang panoorin* because that's not me. *Nanonood ako ng* premiere *pero 'pag may ganoong eksena, 'pag may* sex, look down *na lang. 'Pag na*-sense *kong tapos na...* Watch *ulit. Hindi sa ayaw ko, ha, o nandidiri ako, kasi nga hindi ako 'yun.*

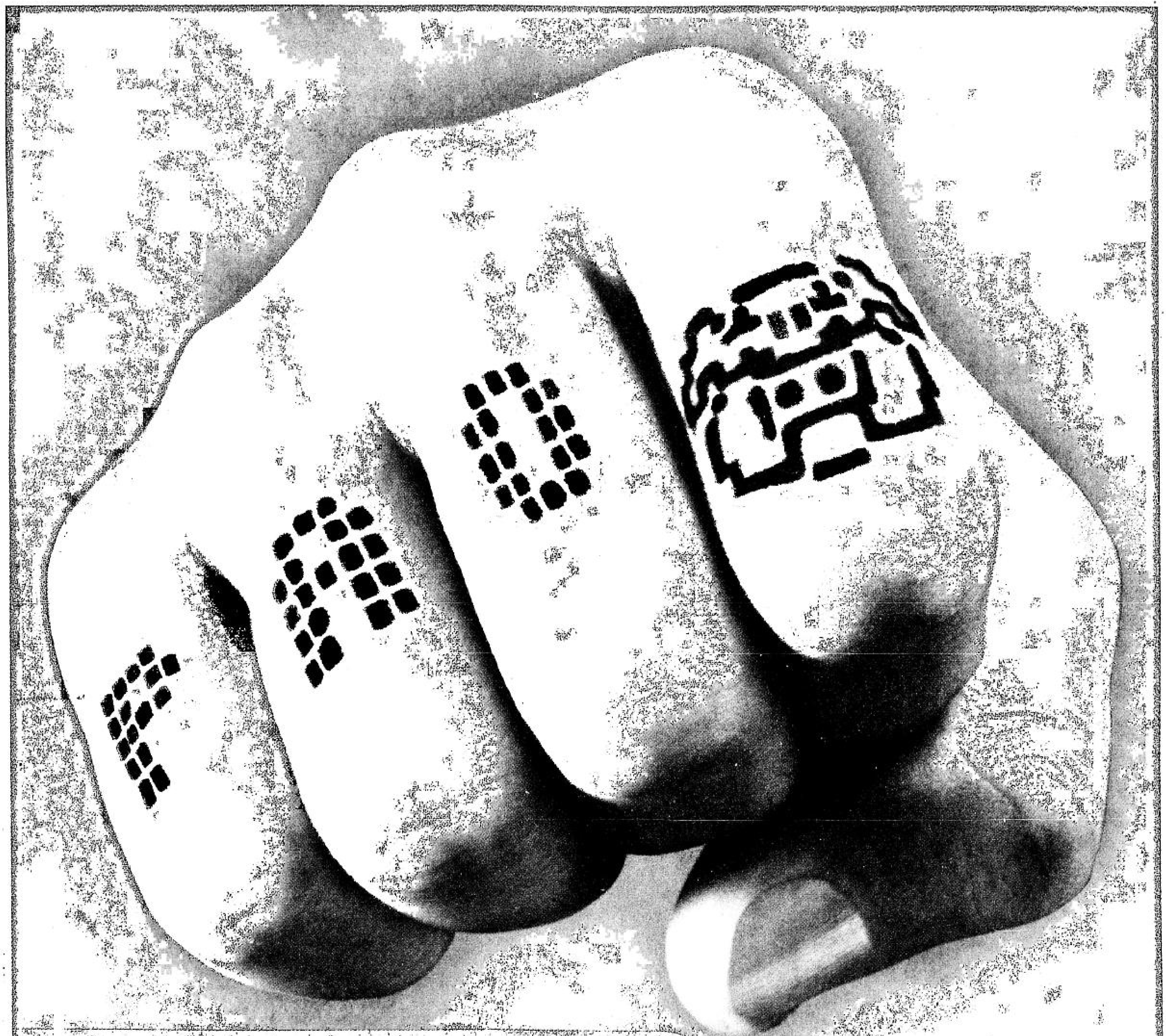
Why can't you watch, *tutal hindi naman ikaw 'yun?*

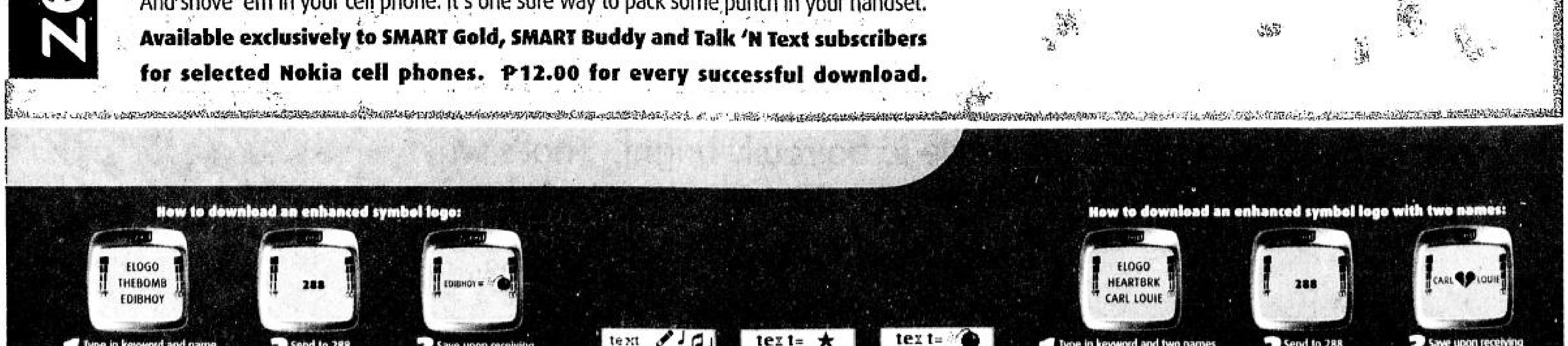
Assunta: *Mukha ko 'yun, eh!* (Chuckles) *Siyempre ako 'yung umaarte.*

***Meron kayong* dream roles?**

Alessandra: *Sirena.* (Laughter) *Bata pa lang ako,* since I was 5, *nagpe*-pray *talaga ako na maging sirena. 'Yung 'pag nabasa ako magiging sirena ako, pero hindi talaga nangyayari.* So *sana maski sa pelikula lang. Ang* weird *ko, ano?* (Chuckles)

Assunta: I think *darating pa lang.*





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SCAD Services(S) Pte., Ltd.

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
ROSARIO, CAVITE

A pre-fabricated wood manufacturing exporting company continuously improving the systems to further enhance organizational growth and development is needing:

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS

Who will be responsible in various program development utilizing visual basic and oracle and shall also be in charge in providing network management assistance.

Aspiring candidates should meet the following criteria:

- ☐ **Male/Female**
- ☐ **Not over 35 years old**
- ☐ **B.S. Computer Science, B.S. Computer Engineering or any 4-year computer courses**
- ☐ **With minimum one year experience in analyzing, developing and designing program using visual basic and oracle.**

The company offers a competitive compensation package commensurate to the qualifications of the choice candidates.

Interested applicants may personally submit their resumé with recent 2x2 picture or mail at Block 23 Phase 4, PEZA, Rosario, Cavite. E-mail applications will also be accepted and sent to hrd_scad@yahoo.com. For inquiries, you may call the HRD-Recruitment at (046) 437-0849 to 51 and look for Christian, Dada or Wella.

Come join our team!

Elements Fine Furnishing Fabrics, Inc. is a trusted source within the interior furnishings industry. We distribute fabric, wallpaper and trimmings (amongst the best the world has to offer) and work very hard to provide highly professional service to the masters of Philippine Interior Design and Architecture.

As our company grows, we have need for two individuals who are self-starters:

~ First, someone to FOCUS ON DETAILS:
Responsibilities will include coordinating international shipments, liaising daily with our suppliers around the world, helping track inventory. You should have 1-3 years of general work experience and must be computer literate (proficient in Word and with Excel). Show us that you are comfortable communicating with people over the telephone, or by fax and e-mail. You must be an efficient self-starter with lots of initiative, and it would help to have a really good memory and a healthy sense of humor.

~ Second, someone to assist us in KEY ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT:
We need a systematic, highly motivated individual to generate sales leads and to focus on prospecting and on client relations. If you have 1-3 years of direct sales or key account management experience, we would be very interested in hearing from you.

Positions are available to start on **March 1, 2002.** We pay above industry rates.

If a long-term career opportunity appeals to you, please send your resumé (with your most recent, verifiable work references) to:

ELEMENTS FINE FURNISHING FABRICS, INC.
9th Floor, DPC Place Building
2322 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati 1222

Priority will be given to resumés that reach us on or before FEBRUARY 8th.

FPDsavills
INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

FPDSavills is the trading name for the property services subsidiaries of Savills plc, which provides a wide range of high-quality, comprehensive, property-related services to developers, owners, tenants and investors across all key segments of commercial, industrial, residential, retail and hotel properties. FPDSavills' strategic alliance with a top US full service real estate advisor Trammell Crow Company means that clients have access to a network of offices in the US and Canada. **FPDSavills has a global network comprising of 250 offices in more than 22 countries.**

Defying market trends in the year 2001, FPDSavills Manila has expanded its business and concluded 64,000 sq.m. of office and residential transactions and sold Php 600 Million worth of properties.

We are seeking qualified, experienced staff to fulfill the following key positions for our expansion:

VALUERS / APPRAISERS

Duties will involve:
- Performing valuation of: residential / commercial / industrial / institutional properties/ Special purpose/ Partial interests (leased fee value & leasehold value)/machinery & equipment
- Utilizing valuation methodologies: Market Data Approach, Cost Approach & Income Approach
- Conducting ocular inspection of properties being appraised and verifying every land and improved comparables used in valuation
- Performing financial analysis for income producing properties
- Conducting highest and best use analysis of properties being appraised and all comparables

Ideal Candidates must be:
- Male/female graduate of a 4-year course, preferably in mathematics, engineering and/or economics
- 3 to 5 years work experience in property valuation; knowledge in valuation applications accepted in the international market is an advantage
- Proficient technical and marketing ability
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With highly professional work ethics
- Highly adept in MS Office applications
- Diligent and dedicated

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

Duties will involve:
- Preparing checks, billing invoices, statement of accounts, aging of accounts, lapsing schedules, official receipts, deposit slips, check payments for clients, petty cash vouchers, debit memos and various audit schedules
- Analyzing payroll computation
- Coordinating with the Finance Director and external auditors for F/S reports required by HK Regional Office
- Preparing financial statements
- Reviewing existing accounting system and recommending modifications and/or changes if necessary
- Preparing and checking monthly government requirements as required by various agencies (BIR, SSS, SEC, etc.) and ensuring timely payment

Ideal candidates must be:
- Male/female graduate of a 4-year course in Accountancy preferably CPA
- 5 to 7 years work experience, preferably in but not limited to, property or real estate industry
- Proficient in MS Office Applications especially in Excel
- Highly analytical with strong organizational skills
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With highly professional work ethics; honest and trustworthy
- Diligent and possesses keen attention to details

Interested candidates must send their resume, transcript of records and 2 x 2 photo not later than February 8, 2002. We will respond only to short listed candidates and those residing in Metro Manila.

Human Resources Department
FPDSavills Philippines Inc.
37th Floor, Philamlife Tower
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel. No.: 885 0580 / Fax No. 885 0577 or 78
E-mail to: nirasga@fpdsavills.com.ph

www.fpdsavills.com

SCAD Services (S) Pte., Ltd.

Come and join our fast growing organization as we are in an urgent need of the following personnel:

ASSISTANT MANAGER (Recruitment and Training)

Male or female, 35 years old and above, a graduate of B.S. Psychology preferably with Masteral Degree in Human Resource Management, with at least 5 years experience in all phases of HRM and Training, preferably exposed in a manufacturing company with over 1,000 employees is an advantage.

ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR (Production and Maintenance)

Male or female, 20 to 30 years old, graduate of any Engineering course with at least 6 months supervisory work experience, aggressive, analytical and assertive, with knowledge in wood working machine operation is an advantage.

ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR - Management Information System

Male or female, not over 30 years old, B.S. Computer Science or Computer Engineering graduate, knowledge in LAN, hardware and software trouble shooting.

COMPANY NURSE

Female, between 21 to 27 years old, experienced in Industrial Nursing is an advantage, with or without license.

ACCOUNTING STAFF

Female, between 21 to 27 years old, B.S. Accountancy graduate, knowledge in bookkeeping and bank transaction is an advantage.

TELEPHONE OPERATOR

Female, 21 to 25 years old, graduate of any four-year course, good oral and written communication skills, computer literate.

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY, ROSARIO, CAVITE

PRODUCTION BASED

FORKLIFT OPERATOR

At least High School graduate, not over 27 years old, with at least 6 months experience in forklift operation, with Professional Driver's License.

MECHANIC

Male, not over 27 years old, with Certificate in Automotive or other related vocational course, at least 6 month experience in machine maintenance and compressor trouble shooting.

ELECTRICIAN

Male, not over 27 years old, with Certificate in Electrical or Industrial Technology, at least 6 months experience as Electrician, knowledge in AVR control is an advantage, can read electrical diagram and symbol.

FACILITY STAFF

Male, 20 to 27 years old, at least High School graduate, knowledge in carpentry, plumbing.

WELDER

Male, 20 to 27 years old, at least High School graduate, with 6 months experience as welder.

PRODUCTION OPERATOR

Male/Female, 20 to 27 years old, at least High School graduate, must be 5'0 (female) 5'2 (male), flexible and with good moral character, preferably residing within Cavite area, physically well-built and able body.

Interested applicants can mail or hand carry the resumé with recent 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the
SCAD HRD, Block 23 Phase 4, PEZA, Rosario, Cavite.
You may also send it thru e-mail: hrd_scad@yahoo.com
For inquiries, you can call the telephone no. **(046) 437-0849** up to **51**.
Look for **Christian**, **Dada** or **Wella**.

If you want to be a part of a highly professional and dynamic company, we have immediate needs for the following positions:

Training Manager
- Master's Degree in Business, Communications, or Education
- At least 2 years experience in training, preferably in a customer contact environment or in multinational company
- Strong leadership, motivational, and supervisory skills

Commercial Credit & Collection Manager
- At least 2 years managerial experience in credit & collection preferably in credit card business

Information Technology Manager
- Degree in Computer Science, Communications, or Business
- 3-5 years customer relations experience in technical environment
- Highly complex knowledge of PC software applications including DOS, Windows, Unix, Network, and Internet communications
- Database management experience is an advantage
- Strong analytical skills
- An excellent team player
- Articulate with strong oral and written communications skills
- Requires extended hours of operation and supervisory function and may require travel

Customer Associate Manager
- At least 2 years experience in supervising and coaching people preferably in a customer contact environment or in multinational company
- Plus the qualifications for a Customer Contact Associate

Customer Contact Associate
- College Degree, preferably with major in Business or Communication, from the top universities
- Highly proficient in the English Language (Writing, Reading, Speaking, & Listening Skills)
- Excellent communication and typing skills
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office including Word & Excel
- Must have the ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously
- Willing to work at different time zones
- Experience in a fast-paced customer contact environment is a plus

For the qualified candidates, you will be asked to undergo the following:
- Multi-media test on English language proficiency
- Series of interviews on key competency areas
- Reference and background check

For the successful candidates, we offer the following:
- Highly competitive salary PLUS performance-based incentives and bonus plan
- Medical/dental and other benefits
- Career advancement and development
- Comprehensive and ongoing training programs
- Opportunity for travel
- Dynamic and challenging work environment

To be considered, please send your cover letter & resume to:
DIRECTOR, RECRUITMENT & TRAINING
MAILBOX 68
6TH FLOOR, LOCSIN BUILDING
AYALA CORNER MAKATI AVENUES
MAKATI, METRO MANILA

A small financial institution that focuses on equity investments, project finance and debt restructuring needs the following with the listed qualifications for its headquarters in Manila.

INVESTMENT OFFICER
(Rank of Manager)

- Sound investment (including listed equity) experience;
- Strong and relevant academic qualifications;
- Good oral and written communication skills, including preparation of business reports/proposals;
- Highly achievement-driven;
- Preferably aged 35 years or below; and
- International exposure and/or experience in banking would be an advantage.

Interested candidates may send their resumé latest by 11 February 2002 to:

P.O. Box 13746, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
or Fax No. (632) 635-3689-90
Attn: Manager (Administration)

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Ayala Systems Technology, Inc.

A Systems Integration Company.

A subsidiary of Ayala Corporation, is a company offering a wide range of IT products and services for various industries.

The company is currently looking for a qualified and experienced candidate to fill up the position below:

SALES MANAGER

The candidate will be responsible for the development of sales plans for a range of business applications products and is responsible for meeting the business unit's sales goals. He/She shall be managing a team of sales representatives—drive sales, define sales strategy and provide guidance in preparing business proposals to win profitable deals, increase market share and customer satisfaction in their business area. He/She shall have Profit and Loss responsibility for the assigned Sales Unit. Candidates with software sales experience are preferred.

Interested parties can send their application letters, together with a comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and latest photo to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
AYALA SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY, INC.
3/F Ayala Life Building
6786 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
or send email to: hrd@ayalasystems.com

Previous applicants need not apply.

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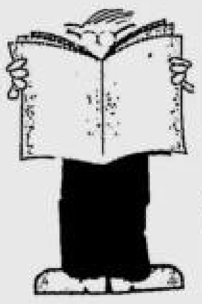

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Graphic Artists (2)

You will be responsible for creative design for various ad projects in print and/or online. You must have 1 year of design experience in a Mac environment and expert skills in Pagemaker, Illustrator and Photoshop. In-depth understanding of color correction and pre-press preparation is required. Ability to write and speak Mandarin is an advantage.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment await the right candidates. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
online: career.globalsources.com
e-mail: asmhr@globalsources.com
fax: (632) 892-4087
post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsource com

Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation, Inc.
We are a non-profit ecumenical Christian housing ministry affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International. We are currently looking for experienced and qualified candidates with a sense of mission for the following positions:

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER (Code: PRO)

to handle the Foundation's tri-media publicity plans as well as develop and write in-house publications and other communication materials.

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Mass Communications, Journalism, or related courses, between 23-30 years old
- 3-5 years solid experience in PR work, in developing and implementing tri-media publicity activities including press conferences, preferably with exposure in development or cause-oriented projects.
- Excellent skills in writing publicity materials, able to develop publicity plans, computer literate especially with publishing software
- Must be sociable and organized, able to work under pressure
- Applicants should submit samples of their published written work and references who can vouch for their capabilities

ACCOUNTANT (Code: ACCT)

to oversee the financial administration of grant funds.

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Accounting, with 3-5 years related work experience, preferably with exposure in handling EU or USAID grant funds, between 23-30 years old
- Must have hands-on experience working with Accounting software
- Willing to engage in a project-based contract, can work long hours, willing to travel

Qualified candidates may send no later than **February 15** their application with an updated and complete resumé and transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Manager
2102 Jollibee Plaza Bldg., Emerald Ave.
Ortigas Center, 1605 Pasig City
(Please indicate CODE)
E-mail: HR@habitat.org.ph

DOME

Dome Café is a chain of outlets in the Philippines, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Dubai and Indonesia offering a wide array of fine foods and gourmet coffees. We set the pace for new standards of experience in operating cafés.

We are looking for aggressive, dynamic, pleasant and service-oriented individuals to fill the following positions:

Café Managers
Supervisors
Chefs
Bakers
Service Crew
Cooks
Receptionists
Handyman/Electrician

Requirements:
- ☑ Experience in similar capacity
- ☑ HRM/HRD graduates preferred
- ☑ 18 to 35 years of age

Benefits:
- ☑ Attractive salary and fringe benefits
- ☑ Excellent opportunity for career advancement
- ☑ Cross training in other Dome Cafés abroad

Interested parties may send their resumés to:

Dome Café
Unit 5-G Strata 100, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Centre, Pasig City
or Fax resumé to 638-6769

Sony Life

Did you know!?

that SONY has a life insurance company?!!

Yes! There is a Sony Life Insurance Co. Ltd. We have been operating in Japan for more than 20 years and came here in the Philippines in the year 1998. We are a flagship company of Sony's financial business group and pursuing the standard of excellence like our peer Sony Group members such as Sony Electronics, Sony Music, Sony Pictures and Sony Playstation.

- ☐ **Ranked #1** in customer satisfaction in the Nikkei Business Survey.
- ☐ **Ranked #1** in net increase amount in in-force business.
- ☐ According to **Standard & Poors, "Sony Life is strengthening its market position** amid a difficult operating environment."

What is the secret of Sony Life's success?... Competitors wonder but the answer is simple:

- ☐ We don't assume that customers know how much protection they need.
- ☐ We can detect precisely how much protection customers need.
- ☐ We don't sell if we find customers have no needs.
- ☐ We know that customers' protection needs change from time to time.

How can we detect customers' needs precisely and accurately? It's a big wonder, but we have three (3) key concepts that explains everything:

- ☐ Financial Need Analysis (different method from others)
- ☐ Tailor-fitted Insurance Program
- ☐ Lifeplanner (totally different from other life insurance agents)

Career Opportunity

For those who want to know more about our secret, or are interested to join our Company, we will provide CIP - Career Information Program for you. **It's free of charge!**

BUT, not everybody can attend CIP. We will entertain only those who meet the following requirements:

- ☐ College graduate (our Lifeplanners are graduates of UP, Ateneo, De La Salle, Miriam College, UST, AIM, etc...)
- ☐ Age 30-45
- ☐ Currently earning more than P 40,000 a month
- ☐ No experience in life insurance/pre-need industry
- ☐ No immediate relatives in the life insurance/pre-need industry

You may send your resumé to:

35/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Avenue cor Herrera St. Makati City or Fax it to 819-1803. For inquiries please call 819-6001.
Only qualified applicants will be contacted.

BE PART OF A SELECT GROUP OF I.T. PROFESSIONALS

The country's leading systems integrator, Accent Micro Technologies, Inc., is opening its doors to qualified candidates whose ambition is to make it big in the ever-dynamic I.T. industry.

We offer successful applicants state-of-the-art solutions, space for growth, above-average remuneration and an environment that's challenging and rewarding.

Account Managers

- Able to present world-renowned I.T. products to clients with confidence and conviction
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- Willing to undertake new methodologies and loves challenges
- Articulate, charming and a good conversationalist
- Believes that learning is a continuous process
- Results-oriented
- New graduates from reputable schools are welcome to apply

Field Engineers/Technicians

- Male, Single
- 21-28 years old
- Graduate of either electronics and communications engineering (ECE) or Technical/vocational school for electronics
- Knowledgeable in computer hardware maintenance, repair and configuration
- At least 1 year experience in computer troubleshooting and repair
- Willing to learn new skills and methodologies
- Willing to attend to client calls and work long hours

Send resume with 1x1 ID picture to:

Accent Micro Technologies, Inc.
Attention: Human Resources Department
Suite 1408 Antel Global Corporate Center
Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig

You may also apply online at www.amti.com.ph
or send resume to marketing@amti.com.ph
juliet@amti.com.ph

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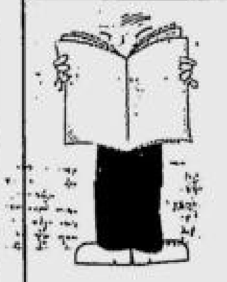

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One of the top 1,000 corporations is in urgent need of:

FINANCE SPECIALIST (AVP Position)

- ➢ Bachelor's Degree in Finance or Accounting
- ➢ With Master's Degree in Business Administration or Finance, CPA/CFA preferred
- ➢ With outstanding academic credentials and work experience in IPO underwriting, corporate and assets valuation, corporate finance, financial statement analysis, modeling and forecasting
- ➢ Strong analytical, quantitative, problem solving and communication skills are important
- ➢ Dependable, self-motivated and able to take on responsibility quickly and to work well in a team environment
- ➢ Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite

Interested applicants are requested to mail their comprehensive resumé with transcript of records and a most recent photograph, NBI Clearance and a Letter of Recommendation at:

The Human Resources Department
6th Floor, One Corporate Plaza Building
845 A. Arnaiz Avenue, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No. 813-6515

The leading franchise management organization is in need of result-driven individuals for its 2002 business expansion plan to function as...

ACA FRANCHISE GROUP
WE BUILD BUSINESSES.

Be part of the
No.1 Franchise Company
in the Philippines!

SALES EXECUTIVES

The Qualifications:

- 20-27 years old, preferably Female / Single
- Graduate from reputable / exclusive schools
- Attractive / Pleasing personality
- Excellent communication and selling skills
- Strong business and social connections
- Goal-Driven and Performance-Oriented
- Ability to drive and willing to travel is an advantage
- Computer literate

The Offer:

- High Monthly Basic Salary
- PLUS earn as much as **P50,000.00** from individual sales incentives
- Car Plan Options

LEASING/SITE COORDINATOR

Male or Female, 25-30 years old
Minimum of three (3) years experience as Leasing/Site Coordinator who is adept and familiar in:
- Site sourcing
- Assessing the viability of the site
- Preparation of feasibility studies to analysis of research data

Patient, thorough, hardworking
Excellent public relations and communication skills
Computer literate
Graduate of B.S. Management is preferred or its relevant work experience is an advantage

Due to the urgency of the requirement, interested applicants should submit their comprehensive resumé and 2x2 photo and report for an initial interview.

ACA Franchise Group
ATTN: HRMD Manager
Human Resources Department
Rm. 2303-A West Tower
Philippine Stock Exchange Center
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Telephone No.: 687-5165 loc. 215 - 216

A dynamic company is inviting experienced and highly motivated individuals with positive mental attitude and willing to grow with the company for the following key position:

AUDIT STAFF

- Male/Female, 22 to 26 years old
- Accounting graduate
- Must have experience in auditing liquidation of expenses / disbursements

BOOKKEEPER

- Male/Female, between 22 to 28 years old
- Accounting graduate, CPA is preferred
- Computer literate

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female, 23 to 30 years old
- Graduate of four years course preferably Secretarial
- Knowledgeable in Computer
- With 2-3 years related experience
- Proficient in oral & written communications
- Proficient in Shorthand writing

EDP-OFFICER

- Degree in computer science or related disciplines
- Knowledge in any SQL Database, Oracle, Interbase, SQL Server
- Knowledge in CRYSTAL report will be an advantage
- Matured and good communication skill and ability to interact with people at all levels.
- Experience working in MLM or Network Marketing industry.

Please send your resumé to

The General Manager
4th Floor, Edmark Bldg.
No. 355 P. Tuazon Blvd., corner
21st Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City

Tel. No. 913-55-15 / 913-1324)
Email: edmark@info.com.ph

The leading store for construction and building materials, hardware equipment and accessories, and various home improvement items is in need of hard-working professionals to fill up the following positions:

HRD HEAD (Code: HH)
HRD ASSISTANT (Code: HA)

☑ Female, AB Psychology/Behavioral Science graduate, knowledge in all aspects of HRD functions
☑ Must be familiar with updated Labor Laws
☑ Excellent oral and written communication skills, can deal with all levels of organization
☑ Computer/Internet literate
☑ For (HH) between 26-35 years old, at least 3-5 years experience in same capacity
☑ For (HA) not more than 25 years old, at least 2 years experience in same capacity

MARKETING ASSISTANT

☑ Female, MassComm or Marketing graduate, not more than 28 years old
☑ Not less than 2 years experience in the same capacity
☑ Excellent oral and written communication skills, very good PR
☑ Well exposed to initiating sales, promotions and publicity
☑ Computer literate

STORE MANAGER

☑ Male, 30-35 years old, graduate of any 4-year course
☑ Not less than 3 years experience in the same capacity
☑ Excellent oral and written communication skills, computer literate
☑ Can handle trainings or seminars
☑ Can deal with all levels of people, dynamic, proactive, organized

DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS

☑ Female/Male, College graduate, not over 28 years old
☑ Not less than 2 years experience in the same capacity
☑ Customer-oriented, good oral and written communication skills

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

☑ Female, CPA, not more than 35 years old
☑ Computer literate, excellent oral and written communication skills
☑ Knowledge of updated tax regulations
☑ Experience in retailing and wholesaling an advantage

ACCOUNTING CLERKS/INVENTORY CLERKS

☑ Female, BSBA Accounting/BS Accountancy graduates, not over 28 years old
☑ Computer literate, organized, must be experienced on related field

CANVASSERS

☑ Male/Female, graduate of any 4-year course, not over 28 years old
☑ Familiar with hardware and construction materials
☑ Familiar with Metro Manila areas
☑ Analytical, aggressive, with good memory, good oral/written English

FORKLIFT OPERATOR

☑ Male, at least Second Year College, not over 28 years old
☑ Not less than 2 years experience

SALES MERCHANDISERS (HARDWARE)

☑ Male, not over 28 years old, College level
☑ Customer-oriented, pleasant personality, experience is an advantage

Interested professionals may apply with their comprehensive resumé, two (2) latest 2x2 pictures and Transcript of Records at the address below:

MC
Home
Depot

The Administration Department
168 Ortigas Avenue corner Meralco Avenue
Pasig City
Tel. No. 636-6944

Releasing children from poverty
Compassion in Jesus' name - **International Philippine Office**

a Christian child development organization
invite applicants for the position of:

Communications Specialist (CS) — The CS is responsible for the overall communications strategy and activities of the Philippine Office of Compassion International. These activities include:

- Preparing and/or overseeing the production of all forms of corporate communications and educational media for the Philippine Office;
- Providing management support in insuring quality standards are maintained for stories, photos and communications, as part of Compassion's service to its sponsors and donors;
- Managing the databank for information in all child-related issues in the country and representing Compassion in advocacy-related forums and activities;
- Providing public relations and community media relations services;

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Must have strong Christian values;
- Formal education in a communications-related field (public relations, photojournalism, communications, marketing, etc.);
- Experience in communications-related fields and thorough understanding of the theoretical, practical, and operational aspects of effective communication;
- Familiarity with basic computer programs and operating skills;
- Ability to relate in a cross-cultural work environment; willingness to travel.

Utility Clerk — **(for immediate hiring)** The Utility Clerk will function as messenger, driver and will perform other general and clerical tasks. Such activities will include the following:
- Transacting to bank related services;
- Purchasing of some office materials and supplies;
- Monthly payment of loans to corresponding bank/s of SSS, Pag-ibig, Philhealth, BIR and National Home Mortgage;
- Attend to photocopying, mimeographing and photo developing and mail dispatching services;
- Oversee and maintain office vehicles.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Must have strong evangelical Christian values;
- Graduate of 2-year course and at least 2 years experience in messengerial job;
- With professional driving license, and knowledgeable in vehicle troubleshooting and maintenance.

Qualified candidates may send formal application for employment with attached recent 2x2 picture, comprehensive resumé detailing work and salary history, and certificate of employment not later than February 2002.

Only shortlisted applicants will be scheduled for examination and interview.

The Human Resource Specialist
Compassion International Philippine Office
Second Floor, 99 E & L Bldg.,
Roces Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. No. 373-30-21 up to 23

WANTED

SUPERVISING LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER

(Item Nos. ILSB-SVLEO-4-1998; Salary Grade: 22) with Bachelor's Degree, preferably in Business/Public Administration/Economics/ Sociology, or graduate of other four-year course relevant to the job; 3 years of research experience, an advantage if in the field of labor and employment; 16 hours of relevant training; and Civil Service Eligible (Professional). Compensation: Basic Salary P19,251.00 plus P1,000.00 monthly allowance.

(2) SENIOR LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER

(Item Nos. ILSB-SRLEO-5-1998 and ILSB-SRLEO-7-1998, Salary Grade: 19) with Bachelor's Degree preferably in Business/Public Administration/Economics/Sociology or other courses relevant to the job; two (2) years relevant experience in research particularly in the field of labor and employment; 8 hours of relevant training; Civil Service Eligible (Professional). Compensation: Basic Salary of P16,792.00 plus P1,000.00 monthly allowance.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER II

(Item No. ILSB-LEO-2-3-1998; Salary Grade: 16) with Bachelor's Degree, preferably in Business, Public Administration, Economics, Sociology, or graduate of four-year course relevant to the job; one-year research experience, an advantage, if in the field of labor and employment; eight hours of relevant training; and Civil Service Eligible (Professional). Compensation: Basic Salary of P11,837.00, plus P1,000.00 allowance.

(3) CLERK III

(Item No. ILSB-CK3-1-1998; ILSB-CK3-4-1998 and ILSB-CK3-5-1998; Salary Grade: 06) Completion of two-year studies in college, preferably in office administration graduate or graduate of two-year course relevant to the job; 6 months experience in the preparation of routine correspondence, endorsements, reports or other related work; and Civil Service Eligible (Sub-Professional). Compensation: Basic Salary of P7,606.00 plus P1,000.00 allowance.

Qualified parties must be currently holding a permanent, temporary or casual position in a government agency and may personally apply or send their comprehensive resumé to:

The Head, Administrative Unit
INSTITUTE FOR LABOR STUDIES
5th Floor, Department of Labor and Employment Building
General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila
Tel. No. 527-35-22
E-mail: nbdelapeña@ilsdole.gov.ph

Want to have it all? Reach out, achieve your goals through Sales!

- ☐ **Male or female, 25 to 50 years old**
- ☐ **At least college level with or without experience**
- ☐ **Hardworking, Achiever, Outspoken**
- ☐ **P 5,000.00 Monthly Allowance + Basic Comm. & Incentives (Financial Planners)**
- ☐ **P 15,000 Monthly Allowance + Basic Comm. & Incentives (Unit Managers)**

Applicants may apply personally & bring resume
(M–F 9AM–5PM)
at **NIPPON LIFE PHILS.** Legaspi Branch
3/F Liberty Bldg. A. Arnaiz St. Makati- 8173469/8173481

UNIBANCARD CORPORATION

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Unibancard Corporation is among the top five credit card companies in the Philippines, being one of the pioneer companies in the industry. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Metrobank Group, currently the largest financial conglomerate in the country.

As part of its goal to remain highly competitive in the market and improve its service to its cardholders, the company is looking for high-caliber candidates who could fill in the following positions:

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER
COLLECTION OFFICER

➢ With at least 2 years experience in customer service or collection function
➢ Excellent analytical skills and sound judgment
➢ Excellent customer communication skills

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

➢ Minimum three (3) years experience especially in the following areas:
  ✓ product development
  ✓ corporate communication
  ✓ advertising and promotion
➢ Excellent presentation skills

ACCOUNTING STAFF
COMPLIANCE ASSISTANTS

➢ Graduate of Accounting or business course
➢ With knowledge in reconciliation
➢ Good analytical skills

PROGRAMMERS

➢ Preferably a BS Computer Science graduate
➢ 2 years programming experience in Visual Basic using MS SQL Server and MS Access as backend
➢ Experience in application development using MS Outlook and Exchange Server would be an advantage

ALL CANDIDATES ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

☑ A graduate of a 4-year business related course
☑ Above-average verbal and written communication skills
☑ Hardworking, goal-oriented with a driver for "success" and "excellence"
☑ Willing to be involved in a constantly fast-paced work environment
☑ Strong leadership abilities
☑ Self-motivated and able to work independently as well as in a team
☑ Computer literate

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé, recent 2x2 photo, and official transcript of records to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
UNIBANCARD CORPORATION
16th Floor, PS Bank Tower
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati
Telephone Number 845-0101 local 4607 or 906

Tomlinson

Singapore Malaysia Thailand Philippines

The Tomlinson Collection is the leading antique specialist in oriental works of art in Southeast Asia. The Philippine branch is inviting applicants for the positions of:

Assistant Gallery Manager

- Female, single, between 24-30 years old;
- Fluent in written and spoken English;
- Preferably with experience in sales and marketing;
- Willing to work 6 days a week and during weekends;
- Graduate of a highly reputable university.

Executive Assistant

- Female, single, between 21-25 years old;
- Fluent in written and spoken English;
- Very organized and dependable;
- Willing to work 6 days a week;
- Graduate of a highly reputable university.

We offer a highly competitive compensation package, opportunities to travel abroad, and highly specialized training for the position being applied.

Submit your resume with current passport-sized photo to:
40 Jupiter St., cor. Paseo de Roxas, Bel-Air Vill., Makati
Tel/Fax: 890-9302

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

We invite competent and career-oriented professionals to join our dynamic organization and establish a rewarding career in retail industry.

MERCHANDISE MANAGER

- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with at least one (1) to two (2) years experience in merchandise purchasing from retail establishments
- excellent communication skills
- can relate well with all levels of the organization

CREDIT AND COLLECTION MANAGER

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course; preferably Accounting major
- with at least three (3) years managerial experience in account management or credit operations
- familiar with local and international credit transactions or gift cheque marketing operations
- excellent communication skills
- can relate well with all levels of the organization

CUSTOMER RELATION SERVICE MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

- male, 5'5 ½ " in height, not over 32 years old
- female, 5'2" in height, not over 32 years old
- graduate of any 4-year course
- with at least two (2) years experience in security and safety operations in the same capacity
- flexible to different work assignments
- with pleasant disposition and can relate well with all levels of the organization

TREASURY SUPERVISOR

- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of Accounting, Banking Finance or any 4-year related course
- with at least one (1) to two (2) years supervisory experience in accounting funds management or treasury functions
- familiar with banking operations and Cenral Bank procedures
- above average communication skills; chinese speaking is an advantage
- proficient in computer software applications
- can relate well with all levels of the organization

Interested parties may apply personally from Mon. to Fri., 9am-5pm or send their resume with recent photo to:

The Recruitment Division Manager
400 Carlos Palanca Street, Quiapo Manila

(Please bring 3 pcs. 2 x 2 colored picture with white background and photo copy of your Transcript of Records and College Diploma together with the original copy).

E-mail : Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

A **Giant Beverage and Manufacturing Conglomerate** invites highly qualified professionals to occupy key positions in the following functional areas:

SALES
MARKETING
HUMAN RESOURCES
FINANCE

Desired qualifications:

- College graduate preferably with honors and/or MBA or equivalent graduate degree
- With 4 to 5 years relevant work experience
- Aggressive, hardworking and with excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Willing to travel within the Philippines and abroad

Fresh graduates with very good scholastic standing, impressive involvement in co-curricular activities and work related experiences would also be considered.

Interested applicants are invited to send their resumés with contact numbers, current and expected pay, and a recent 2x2 photo to:

Box No. 300
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5/F Building B, SM Megamall
Mandaluyong City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

NETWORK ENGINEER

- College graduate preferably Computer Engineering or ECE
- 1-2 years related experience
- Concepts in Computer Networking
- Email and Internet Administration
- Linux, Novell NetWare and Windows NT/ 2000 Operating Systems

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets
Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

SAMIE INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT & GENERAL SERVICES
2127 Saint Gothard Building, A. Mabini Street, Malate, Manila
License No. 549-LB-120400-R
Tel. Nos.: 536-5278, 484-0275
Accreditation No.: 64959

A big and well-known company in Saudi Arabia is in need of the following positions and employer in town for interview.

FURNITURE DESIGNER
3-5 years experience and with knowledge in Auto CADD or manual.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
3-5 years experience. Graduate and with diploma.

ACCOUNTANT
3-5 years experience. Graduate with license and diploma. He should be computer literate.

FOOD LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
3-5 years experience as Food Laboratory Technician.

PHOTOGRAPHER
3-5 years experience in picture taken and video coverage.

GAS MECHANIC
3-5 years experience. He should be ex-abroad.

AUTO ELECTRICIAN
3-5 years experience in American Car.

FURNITURE PAINTER
3-5 years experience in furniture painting especially in antique.

FURNITURE CARPENTER
3-5 years experience in machine carpentry.

FURNITURE UPHOLSTERER
3-5 years experience in sofa upholstery

TENT (CUT & SEW)
3-5 years experience in tent making.

STOCK SUPERVISOR
3-5 years experience in furniture factory in upholsterer furniture painter.

FURNITURE QUALITY CONTROL
3-5 years experience in furniture factory in upholsterer furniture painter.

MARBLE CUTTER & FIXER
3-5 years experience in cutting and installing all kind of marble.

VIEW ARTIST/PHOTO PAINTING
3-5 years experience and natural view drafting.

REQUIREMENT:

Resumé papers with job description, Certificate of Employment with 2x2 ID picture. Interested applicants outside Metro Manila can send your resumé to SAMIE INTERNATIONAL.

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY • NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITERS • THIS AD IS APPROVED BY P.O.E.A.

Our company is the undisputed leader in the retread industry. We are the franchise dealer of the World's No. 1 cold process retreads. Our plants and sales offices are strategically located nationwide. We are in the retreading business for the past three (3) decades.

To further strengthen our market leadership and scale new heights, as we meet increasing market demands, we need top caliber aspirants for the position of

AREA SALES REP

(entry position for Service Franchisee)

- Male, 25-35 years old
- College graduate
- Outgoing and resourceful
- Good conversational and negotiation skills
- An entrepreneurial person
- With professional driver's license
- Preferably residents of NCR, Laguna, Bulacan, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro and Davao City
- Capable of posting property/cash bond

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to earn an advantage of P50,000.00 per month.

FOR LUZON: Apply personally at MMRI (Bandag), Km. 19, A. Rodriguez Avenue, Manggahan, Pasig City. Tel. Nos.: 646-2185; 681-5502 (fax) 900-2215.

FOR VISMIN: Apply at Central Phils. Bandag, Inc., HVG Arcade, Subangdaku, Mandaue City. Tel. Nos.: (032) 346-0172; 345-0023 (fax) 346-5825.

The Asia Foundation is seeking to hire a qualified and dynamic

PROGRAM OFFICER

to manage the transparency and accountability program in the Foundation's Philippines program governance portfolio. The program officer will work with project partners, donors, and other related constituencies in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the program.

The individual selected for this position will be highly motivated and prepared to assume significant responsibility for developing and implementing a multi-faceted grant-making program. Candidates should ideally possess a minimum of 5 years development-oriented professional experience in the Philippines, ideally in the field of governance and public policy, including local governance. A Master's or Professional degree is preferred, with a Bachelor's degree the minimum. Studies in the fields of political science, public administration, or economics are desirable. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate strong program management and verbal and written communication skills, as well as the ability to work with a wide range of partners, including senior government and private sector officials as well as NGOs. Experience with international donor-funded projects is preferred, but not required.

The Asia Foundation is an international private voluntary organization that has been supporting development programs in the Philippines since 1954. The position will be under a contract with full benefits and salary commensurate with experience. Please submit cover letter and resumé to:

The Asia Foundation
by email to general@asiafound.org.ph

or via mail to:
P.O. Box 7072,
Domestic Airport Post Office, Pasay City.

The deadline for applications is February 21, 2002.

ADB

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSOCIATE DATA COMMUNICATIONS ANALYST

The Position

- Responsible for planning, implementing and maintaining ADB's Network Operating Center (NOC);
- Evaluates and recommends Enterprise Management System (EMS) and NOC tools and/or best practices available in the market;
- Coordinates with other departments in EMS-related projects;
- Develops appropriate documentation procedures on systems and procedures related to EMS and NOC;
- Manages Change Control procedures related to network operations;
- Monitors, assesses and recommends improvements on LAN and WAN operations; and
- Maintains and ensures smooth daily network operations.

The Requirements

- University degree in MIS, Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related fields;
- At least six years' experience in a network-support environment with at least three years directly on EMS or NOC projects;
- Adeptness with EMS and network monitoring tools such as HP Openview, Cisco Works, Tivoli, Patrol or Unicenter;
- In-depth knowledge of switching technology (layer 3), LAN and WAN architecture and TCP/IP and SNMP protocols;
- Familiarity with the installation, configuration and troubleshooting of Cisco equipment;
- Working knowledge of MS Office, Lotus Notes and Visio;
- Familiarity with WindowsNT. / Windows2000 installation and administration;
- MCSE and/or Cisco Certifications would be an advantage; and
- Good organization and communication skills.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for the ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside the Headquarters at the discretion of Management. For further information, visit www.adb.org.

Send CV/resume and cover letter by fax, mail or e-mail. An online form is available at ADB's website.
Quote Ref. No. 02-02 by 15 February 2002 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Women are actively encouraged to apply.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Rx MEDICard

MEDICard PHILS INC.

One of the country's leading HMO is looking for assertive, dynamic and energetic individuals to fill up the following vacancies:

• REGISTERED NURSES

- With at least 6 months to 1 year experience in a hospital or HMO setting;
- With pleasing personality and above-average communication skills;
- Willing to be assigned in Clark Pampanga.

• VISUAL BASIC PROGRAMMER

- Graduate of four (4) years Computer related course;
- With 2 years programming experience;
- Working knowledge in MS SQL Server is an advantage.

• CLAIMS PROCESSOR

- Female, between 21 to 27 years of age;
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy;
- Must be computer literate.

• LIAISON OFFICER

- Graduate of any Medical course;
- Good in oral and written communication skills;
- Must be computer literate.

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to apply personally. Bring resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 photo at: Medicard Phils., Inc.: Human Resources Department - 5/F Sagittarius Bldg., H.V. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Email us at laguila@medicardphils.com

(Previous applicants need not apply)

DAILY E-NEWSPAPER NEEDS

2 FULL-TIME WRITER/EDITOR

- male/female
- fluent in English
- good proofreading skills
- must have newswriting experience
- knowledgeable in PC operations (Windows98, MS Word) and the Internet

1 IT SUPPORT STAFF

- familiar with Windows 98/ Linux operations and programs
- knowledgeable in LAN structure, PC maintenance and troubleshooting
- fluent in English

send comprehensive resumé and other documents to e-mail: newslink@info.com.ph

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syngenta

Syngenta Philippines, Inc., formed by the merger of "agribusiness sectors" of Novartis Agro and Zeneca, is the leading supplier of crop protection and seeds products, solutions and services in the country. We also proud ourselves of our very professional and synergistic workforce which add more value to the organization.

We are currently looking for a high caliber and exemplary individual who would assume the position of:

General Accounting Supervisor

(Seeds Division)

Responsibilities:
Our candidate is responsible for: (1) providing timely and accurate financial information for statutory and management purposes; (2) instituting effective accounting system; and (3) ensuring compliance with tax regulations.

Qualifications:

- Male or Female
- A bonafide college graduate of Accountancy, from a reputable university, a Certified Public Accountant, not over 35 years old.
- Equipped with at least (5) years supervisory experience with strong background on taxation, possesses excellent communication and analytical skills.
- Proficient in computer operations, knowledge in BPCS or SAP is an advantage.

A rewarding and competitive compensation and benefits package await the successful candidate. Interested parties may send their credentials to:

The Human Resource Department
9/F Salcedo Towers, 169 HV Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

Or email at team.hr@syngenta.com
You can also call us through 843-5121 local 7255
or fax us at 817-9862.

WANTED

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Male or female
- Marketing graduate or any related course
- Experience in setting up and handling overall operations of fashion boutique

DESIGNER

- Fine Arts graduate or any related course
- With experience
- With computer knowledge

Send your resumé to:

CITIC PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL CO.
50 Joy Street, Grace Village, Quezon City

A Korean construction company based in Dhaka, Bangladesh

is in need of the following:

PLANNING ENGINEER

○ Must have at least 10 years experience in preparing official and claim documents in planning section

BRIDGE ENGINEER

○ Must have at least 10 years experience in scheduling and Controlling of work for 555m of bridge in construction section

MATERIAL ENGINEER

○ Must have at least 10 years experience in scheduling and Controlling of construction materials in procurement section

An attractive remuneration package commensurate with qualification and experience will be offered to the successful candidates.

Apply at:

F.O. MAIDIN INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, INC.
8008 Tanguile Street, San Antonio Village, Makati
Tel. Nos. 8977950 / 8708689 Telefax No. 8965076

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY / NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
"MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER" / THIS AD IS APPROVED BY POEA

The **MONTESSORI SCHOOL** in PASAY CITY is in need of young persons challenged and intrigued by the opportunity to know Montessori theory and practice first hand, working with intellectually, socially and economically diverse children in an environment that encourages their development as individuals.

Not having experience as a teacher is a plus. However, you must be a college graduate and if not an Education major, you must be ready to complete eighteen education units within two years from hiring and take the Professional Licensure Examination for teachers.

Please send a letter of intent addressed to the Head Directress. State the position you are applying for and a telephone number where you can be reached. Then please wait for a call that will inform you of your interview schedule.

MARIA MONTESSORI
CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.
50 Williams Street
corner F.B. Harrison, Pasay City
Telephone 831-1814; 833-2441

A Prestigous
Materials Handling Equipment Company
is in need of

☐ SALES & MARKETING EXECUTIVES

- *Male/ female, not more than 30 years of age*
- *With excellent oral and written skills*
- *Aggressive marketing personality*
- *Graduate of any College Degree*
- *With experience*

☐ MARKETING ASSISTANT

- *Female- not more than 24 years old*
- *With excellent oral and written skills*
- *Computer literate*
- *Business course graduate*
- *Experience in tele-marketing a plus*

We offer an Above Average compensation package
Include with your Résumé the ff:
a list of achievements, 2 x 2 picture and send to:

HRD Department
PO Box 3666 , M.C.P.O.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

- Graduate of any business course
- Knowledge of the ins and out of Metro Manila
- Excellent communication skills

EDITORIAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

(for Legaspi Bureau)

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism, Mass Communication or English
- 2 years experience as an editorial assistant or jobs leading to it
- Computer skills, Interviewing skills, Layouting skills, Writing skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

UNIVERSAL RIGHTFIELD PROPERTY HOLDINGS, INC.

MARKETING AND SALES

Which of these traits best describes you?

a. positive
b. highly-charged
c. poised to succeed
d. all of the above

If you answered letter d, are experienced in real estate sales, particularly condominiums, then we want YOU.

YOU will be involved in marketing prime ready to occupy, residential and office units built by *DM Consunji*, the country's premier construction company. Our business package includes:

- Monthly compensation
- Free training and orientation
- Commissions of up to 200,000 for a single transaction
- Other sales incentives

We are also open for broker accreditation (individual or group)

Send your resumé and photo to:

Universal Rightfield Property Holdings, Inc.
Unit 713-714 Globe Telecom Plaza II Building
Pioneer Highlands, Pioneer corner Madison Streets
Mandaluyong City

Development Alternatives Inc. **(DAI)** is an international consulting firm whose mission is to assist business, government and civil society solve economic development problems. DAI is currently implementing a number of projects in the Philippines, and is always looking for talented technical, managerial, and support professionals for short-and long-term opportunities in the following areas:

Banking • Finance & Investment • Agriculture • Government and Civil Society • Information and Communication Technology • E-Commerce • International Trade • Environment • Transportation • Public Administration

The following qualifications are required for all appllicants:

- Bachelor's degree, Master's preferred, from an accredited university, especially in law or economics.
- Substantial (minimum 3 years) experience in related fields
- Strong written and oral English skills

To be considered for positions with DAI, please email your curriculum vitae to: agileinfo@dai.com, or mail it to:

AGILE, Attn: Human Resources
Units C and D, Strata 2000 Building
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

DAI is an equal opportunity employer and offers a competitive employment package.

ON Semiconductor

Formerly a Division of Motorola

We turn ON technology & connect it to your world!

A NASDAQ-listed multi-national company based in Phoenix, Arizona, with manufacturing facilities all over the world, offers an extensive portfolio of power- and data management semiconductors that address design needs of today's sophisticated electronic products, appliances and automobiles.

The company has three main product lines: power management and standard analog ICs, high-performance logic, and standard semiconductors that include active discrete and MOSFET devices.

Roznov, Czech Republic
Aizu, Japan
Aylesbury UK
Toulouse France
Tokyo, Japan
Piestany, Slovak Republic
Phoenix, AZ. U.S.A.
Hong Kong, China
Manila, Philippines
Guadalajara, Mexico
Leshan, China
Seremban, Malaysia- SCG & SMP
Singapore

We are looking for highly qualified individuals who will be part of our expansion activities for 2002. Priority will be given to applicants who have extensive experience in the semiconductor and electronics industry:

PRODUCT ENGINEERS
(Job Code: TPED-PE)
•Must have a degree in ECE or EE
•Should have at least 2 years experience as Product Engineer
•Knowledge in analog and mixed-signal testers;
•Knowledge in Teradyne A360, Eagle ETS300/500.

EQUIPMENT ENGINEERS
(Job Code: TED-EE)
•Must have a degree in ECE, EE or ME
•Should have at least 2 years experience as Equipment Engineer
•Knowledge in Teradyne A360, Aetrium, Eagle 500/300, Aseco 170

TEST ENGINEERS
(Job Code: TPED-TE)
•Must be an ECE graduate
•Strong foundation in electronics circuit design for analog, logic and mixed signal
•At least 2 years experience in test package development
•Knowledge in C, C++, visual C++ software programming
•Experience in ETS software application or equivalent type of tester

PRODUCT TECHNICIANS
(Job Code: TPED-PT)
•Must be a 3-year technical course graduate
•Should have at least 2 years experience as Product Technician
•Knowledge in analog and mixed-signal testers
•Knowledge in Teradyne A360, Eagle ETS300/500.

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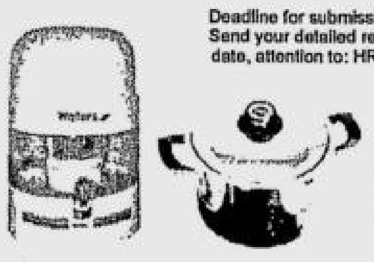

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

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(2) ENGINEER II - SG 16; Item Nos. EFIP 6-2 and EFIP 6-3; Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering; 1 year relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080.

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

The Community-Based Coastal Resource Management Resource Center (CBCRM RC), a non-government organization (NGO) involved in research, training, organizing and networking activities in support of the empowerment of coastal communities is looking for a

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- Prepare timely narrative and financial donor reports
- Coordinate and liase with various individuals, groups and networks necessary for achieving project objectives

Qualifications:

- Minimum three years work experience (NGO experience is an advantage);
- Knowledge and understanding of coastal resource management and fishery issues in the Southeast Asia is preferred;
- Experience in participatory research and training skills in popular education
- Proven leadership and project management skills, resourceful, organized and creative;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and Filipino;
- Strong networking people management skills;
- Proven finance management skills;
- Ability to work under pressure, meet tight deadlines, and deliver agreed standards of performance;
- Good computer literacy skills (familiarity with MS Word, Excel and other MS Office applications); and,

Qualified applicants should submit application and complete curriculum vitae to:

The Center Coordinator
CBCRM RC
Room 107 PSSC Building
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. (632) 920-3368, 927-9237

Emailed submissions are accepted at cbcrm_rc1@pacific.net.ph

Deadline of applications is on 15 February 2001. Only short-listed applicants will be informed of the interview date.

sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
February 3, 2002
magazine

By Alya B. Honasan
Photographs by Mike Alquinto

Jericho Rosales talks well, acts great and looks even better. But it's his candor about his humble beginnings that has given his long-suffering soap opera portrayal a ring of truth – and has won him pogi points as a teen idol for the common folk

JERICHO Rosales doesn't walk into this pictorial. The young actor of the moment rolls in on a scooter, looking years younger than his beefy print and screen persona. With his baseball cap and messenger bag, he looks like he just unwrapped the toy last Christmas and can't get enough of it yet.

Fans certainly haven't gotten enough of this 22-year-old actor just yet, either. He's the long-suffering hero with puppy dog eyes in ABS-CBN's smash soap hit "Pangako Sa 'Yo," *and is a headliner of the network's Talent Center. He ended a stellar year with a noteworthy performance as a marine lieutenant in Marilou Djaz-Abaya's take on the Mindanao conflict,* "Bagong Buwan." *Next up is the movie that will most likely seal his star status, a team-up with his angel-faced soap co-star and real-life girlfriend, Kristine Hermosa.*

Indeed, the boy's on top of the world. It was a world that used to be a lot uglier, a fact Jericho hasn't kept hidden from tabloid central. Much has been written about how he helped his mother Rose sell fish in the market after his father upped and left when Jericho was 9. There was the time spent mopping floors at Greenwich, now part of contemporary matinee idol legend (think Richard Gomez and McDonald's, Carlos Agassi and Pizza Hut – what is it with fastfood and beefcake?), and the struggle to finish high school.

In 1997, Jericho joined "Eat Bulaga"'s Mr. Pogi tilt and won, eventually becoming part of ABS-CBN's Star Circle. His

Jericho Rosales

Hunk with Hea

first TV appearance, he recalls, was as a frat man, a supporting role to Rico Yan in the latter's drama special, directed by Michael de Mesa. Then there was a movie where he played Richard Gomez's kid brother, with four scenes – and zero lines. "React lang ng react," he chuckles.

It's a new world that has been very good to Jericho, his mother and his kid brother Jeremiah, both of whom he supports; the first thing he did with his first big paycheck was to buy his mother a house in Antipolo, where he still lives. Yet, he has also learned to escape this world when he can. He still hops on a bus to La Union in the wee hours, unshaven and incognito in his baseball cap, to surf the waves and bum on the beach with his old friends. His real-life nickname, Echo, is not a showbiz monicker, but is borrowed from his gang's favorite New Wave band, Echo and the Bunnymen. "Sounds nice, di ba? Umuugong *(it reverberates), like it's something big." SIM sat down with one of the biggest kids in showbiz today.*

SIM: After 'Bagong Buwan," they're calling you the hunk who can act. How do you like that?

JERICHO: *(A bit flustered)* Okay *naman*, but the other guys can act, too *(Talent Center is pushing Jericho as one of "The Hunks" along with Piolo Pascual, Diether Ocampo, Carlos Agassi and Bernard Palanca).* Wait, let's remove the hunk part first. Acting is my profession, it is my life, it's what I've always wanted to do. I'm just happy with what I'm doing, and serious about it. But if I can do my job, it's because I've worked with good TV directors like Rory Quintos, Jerry Sineneng, Olivia Lamasan, and movie directors like Laurice Guillen and Marilou Diaz-Abaya, and I listen to their advice.

SIM: And what do they tell you?

JERICHO: To take care of myself and my attitude; to take care of my talent, love myself and know what I want to do. Maybe I've proven I can do my part, so I feel they think of me when there's a good project. I appreciate that very much, although I still don't know how to deal with it. If I let it get to my head, I'll probably get hydrocephalus!

SIM: Has that affected your choice of roles? And will you prefer film to TV now?

JERICHO: This year I want to do light romances, take it slow first. I want to learn *pa*. I've been doing a lot of work for TV – it's not just the crying, but the thinking, the emotional continuity, what the character will feel. We tape three times a week, and I read the script beforehand. For "Bagong Buwan," we had a workshop and immersion where I had to talk and eat with the Marines, do the drills. I believe in preparation. There are some things you do well as a surprise, but you can do a lot better with preparation. TV is very important, but I'd love to do more movies, because I

To page 2

CONTENTS

Regulars

[illegible] 2
[illegible]orie M. Evasco 2
[illegible] Gift of Blessedness by Fr. Ruben J. Villote 7
[illegible] 7
[illegible] by Jess Abrera 7
[illegible]worthy Lady of the Lak[illegible] 8

Features

Cover Story
Hunk with Heart *by Alya B. Honasan* 1
Jericho Rosales has become a teen idol for the common folk

Music
Martin Nievera, Unfluffed *by Eric S. Caruncho* 3
A false note haunts the singer's otherwise stellar music career

Netizens
Ink and html *by Ruel S. De Vera* 4
Artist Gerry Alanguilan's homepage is a forum for comic fans

People for the Planet
Saving the Animals, and Then Some *by Nayna Malayang* 4
Meet lady veterinarians working for conservation

Celebrities
Honeymoon Suite *by Rodolfo A.G. Silvestre Jr.* 5
Jessa and Dingdong discover marriage is more than a media event

All in the Game
A Different Court *by Natalia F. Diaz* 5
Ex-badminton star Weena Lim fights new battles as a sports official

Artwatch
Double Vision *by Joy Rojas* 6
Jay Campos III's pictures are statements about boundaries

First Person
The Diplomat Priest *by Fr. Emmanuel R. Fernandez* 6
A priest says his calling helped him as a foreign service officer

Foodies
Lord of the Grills *by Gina Abuyuan Llanes* 8
Gerry Apolinario made the ihaw-ihaw respectable

HUNK...from page 1

have more time to prepare. I want to make it big, and winning an award has always been a dream of mine – although my dream role would still be Spiderman!

SIM: It's been said that you play the underdog well because you know what it's like. Do you mind that people keep digging up your past?

JERICHO: I think it's helped me, not having had a privileged upbringing. I will never regret what happened to me; otherwise, I would not be myself, I would not be this tough, I wouldn't be this human being. I just try to think of myself as a tool, to show people who are down or going through the same thing that okay *lang*. I pass it on. Maybe that's my purpose. I used to be really *galit sa mundo*, but I've also always been the jolly type. I still carry some of the anger, but it feels good to be able to get rid of most of it, to forgive people. I'm still in touch with my dad; we saw each other last Christmas.

SIM: So you're now the *padre de familia*, right? Ever wondered what it would be like to be just a regular kid?

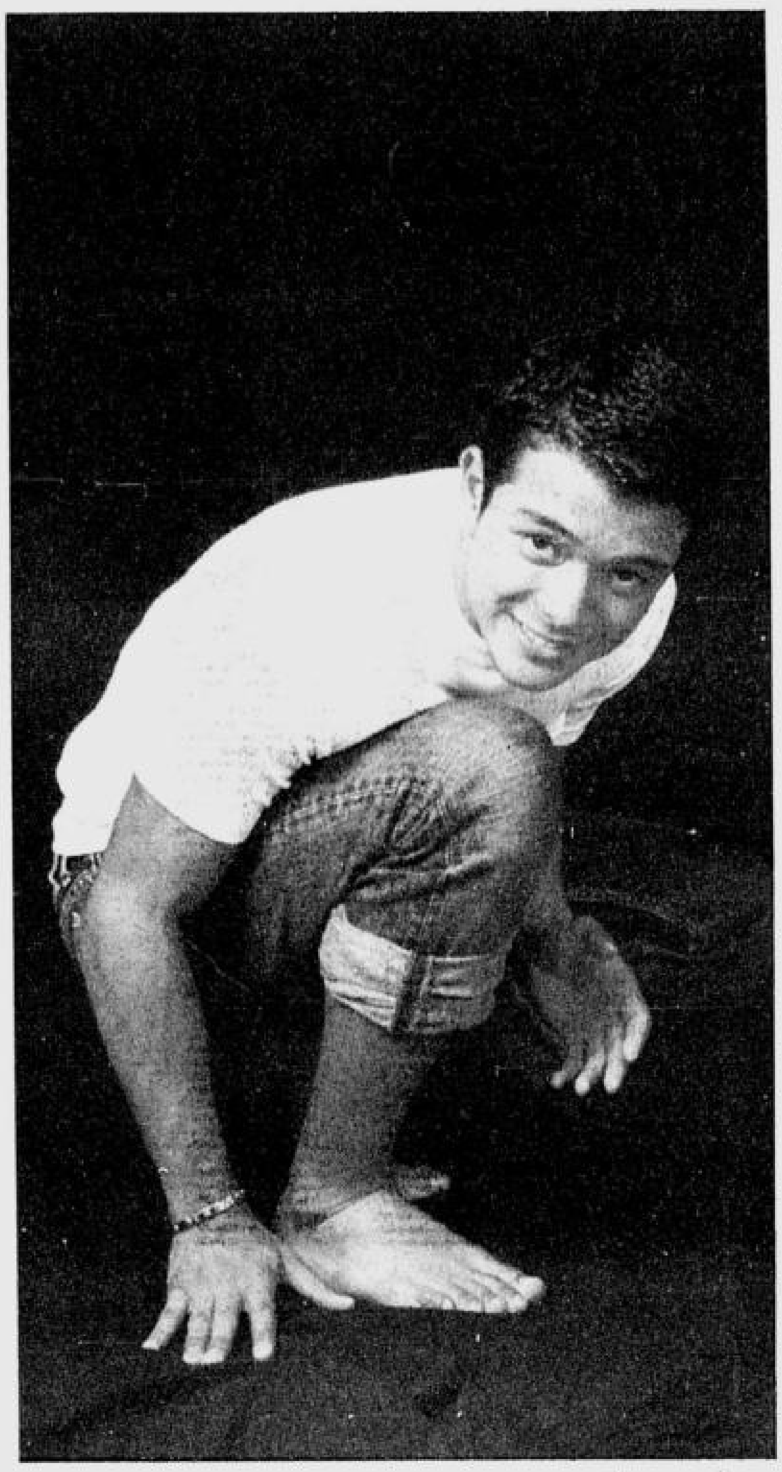
JERICHO: You know, that's a funny feeling. Before, I just saw this as work, and I enjoyed the good fortune. It only sank in recently that I was supporting my family. Suddenly, I began thinking about the future, especially when I realized that in seven or eight years I may *still* be supporting them. My brother is 17, and he's in high school. I know I have a responsibility because I love them. I do have the will to support them, but knowing that it is a real obligation can be a bit difficult. It's different when it's just your own world, you're your own king. A regular kid? Well, if I were regular, I wouldn't be able to support them, right? But my own plans are on hold, and I'm also preparing myself for what I really want.

SIM: And what do you really want? What's important to you?

JERICHO: Now, there are so many schedules, so many things I want to do. The point is just to save money until the time when I can say, okay, I'm made, I really want to do this, I can go ahead, whether it's a business or directing commercials or whatever. Most important now is my career *talaga*. What I have right now is a good chance to prepare for my future, so I need my career. I need the work, and I need to be good at it. It doesn't mean, though, that I will be a different person. This career can really change everything – you and your attitude, the people around you. You're the focus of everything *kasi*. *Huwag ka lang mayabang*, or God will take it away from you.

SIM: Ah, God is in the picture? Are you a religious person?

JERICHO: I have faith. I don't know, sometimes the word "religious" *(wrinkles nose)*... But I do pray a lot. Whatever I receive, I know it's not just a simple blessing but a test of how I can handle it. That's why I try to share, primarily with my family, my friends, even just paying for a party, or giving away gifts, in whatever way.



SIM: What about love, marriage, kids? And aren't you afraid of having your own family, what with all you've been through?

JERICHO: My personal plans are on hold for now. I like kids, I'm okay with them, and I see myself as a father and husband some day. When I have kids, I might be more playful than them *pa*. When I'm happy I run, jump around, do a lot of crazy things. I'll probably be married when I'm 30. Family will be a big change in history for me. I won't let things happen again. I know there's no ideal family, like there's no ideal girl or relationship. You have to learn. It's a matter of being able to handle each other right. I will love my family, give them the best.

I'm too nice *nga* as a boyfriend, I always think of my girlfriend. For example, I buy things for her, small things from wherever I go. Even when I want to buy something for myself, I always end up remembering her. I'm romantic. Maybe I expect too much in terms of having the same thing come back to me. I've tried to accept the idea that what I give may not come back to me every day, or in the same way.

SIM: Has this business ever made you lose your patience? How do you deal with the negative part?

JERICHO: I don't. I don't have tabloids and *chismis* magazines at home. I just don't say anything so the issue won't grow. Yes, many times I've reached a point when I almost lost my temper, when I almost punched somebody, but I have a lot of patience. I've learned to be patient. I ask myself if I will bite or not, but I realize it feels better to let go.

SIM: What if you lost all this tomorrow?

JERICHO: I'll be okay, I'll be working. My family is used to working. We can manage, we can live anywhere. No problem. But – tomorrow? That's so soon *naman*! Not yet!

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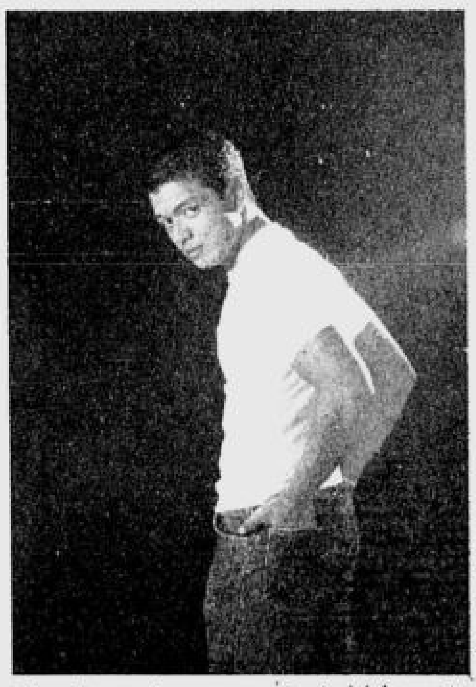

The Cover Image Jericho Rosales is a star with his feet on the ground *Photograph by Mike Alquinto*

SIMPLE FOLK

YOU have a great magazine out there! Your articles are about people, and speak to people on their own level. The range of personalities you feature is also very interesting, especially that piece on Lea Salonga.

I would also like to read about simple people and how they thrive in the countryside. Why not include in your future line-up of stories the winners of the Geny Lopez Bayani awards? I believe they are very interesting people we urbanites would like to meet. Can you also feature Filipinos who work hard in various no-governmental organizations? As a contract worker, of personal interest to me are agricultural endeavors.

More power and congratulations for a very informative magazine, and for making it a place where we can meet real people not only from the cities, but also those who shed light on the dark alleys of our lives.

JUN DANIEL
Al-Khobar, KSA
daniac0a@aramco.com.sa

KNOWLEDGE

JUST want to congratulate the editor of **SIM** for all the hard work and feature articles written every weekend. It's always good to read an interesting article for a change, rather than stories on politics, muggings and murders. It does make a big difference. You not only inspire us, but feed us with knowledge. Hope you continue to write quality rather than quantity.

VIA EMAIL
Cgs2731@aol.com

SPORTS FAN

I enjoyed Alex Almario's article about die-hard sports fans. As a lifelong Chicago fan, there are many moments etched in my mind that will forever be part of who I am. From "The Shot" of Michael Jordan (which, by the way, was on May 7, 1989, not the article's claim of 1990) to Walter Payton breaking the all-time rushing record in the early '80s, there are countless memories that have given me so much enjoyment.

Now that I have moved back to the Philippines, I try to catch every single historical sports event. If it means waking up at odd hours of the morning, so be it. It's a small sacrifice to be part of human achievement.

JUDE TURCUATO
jude@layala.com

TOUCHING THE HEART

Thank you for your article "Another Shot at Life" (**SIM**, 06 January 2002). Its content deeply touched my heart and soul. I admire Kat's attitude in life. At this time, youth/children need inspiring articles or words to make them continue to be productive individuals. Kat's story can soften and touch anybody's heart, open somebody's eyes and enlighten somebody's mind.

GWEN A. DANS
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DWLB FM 89.7 Mhz
Labo, Camarines Norte
gwen_dans@yahoo.com

ATTENTION CONTRIBUTORS!

SIM strives to pay our valued contributors within three weeks of publication of an article or poem. However, to facilitate preparation of your fees – and to avoid an unnecessary trip! – please give the Cashier a call at tel. no. 897-8808 local 533 to confirm if your check is ready before visiting. Many thanks and keep them coming!

Poetry

Two Poems by Marjorie M. Evasco

Elegy #1

(Upon reading Miklós Radnóti's "Postcard" poem
in Edward Hirsch's How to Read a Poem)

There are deaths more terrible than mine might
Ever be: Radnóti in Szentskirályszabadja
Keeping watch at midnight in the space
Of a march across Hungary in autumn,
His pencil scratching postcard verses in a small
Serbian exercise notebook, foretelling the moment
He would topple over from threshold to abyss
In November's mass grave near Abda.

There's the death of his widow after:
When she gathers his bones exhumed
From the pit among twenty others.
The back of his field jacket shattered
Where the assassin's bullets found their way.
She finds in the secret pocket just above
His heart, his voice risen from the ground

Offering Death a poem for delivery.

Manila, June 30, 1999

Elegy #2

Poets dive, their wings spread to measure
The chasm. Li Po toppled over into the abyss
Of his desire: that full rainbowed moon
Caught in the undertow of lake and lotus.

He must have waved his drunken arms
Up and down towards the smile shimmering
Beneath his boat. He plummeted, thirsty,
Head first into the waters. And the lotus

Bloomed full, their roots forever parted,
And offered him a soft bed of silt.

Manila, June 30, 1999

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Music

By Eric S. Caruncho

An honest mistake, says this singer of the controversy behind his hit music video. Here's how the erstwhile TV host is coping with the flak and with the cancellation of his late-night show, and how he's looking to expand his musical horizons

Martin Nievera, Unfluffed

DIANE Warren. That's who wrote "To Say Goodbye," Martin Nievera's new hit single. There. Happy now? What's not to be happy about?

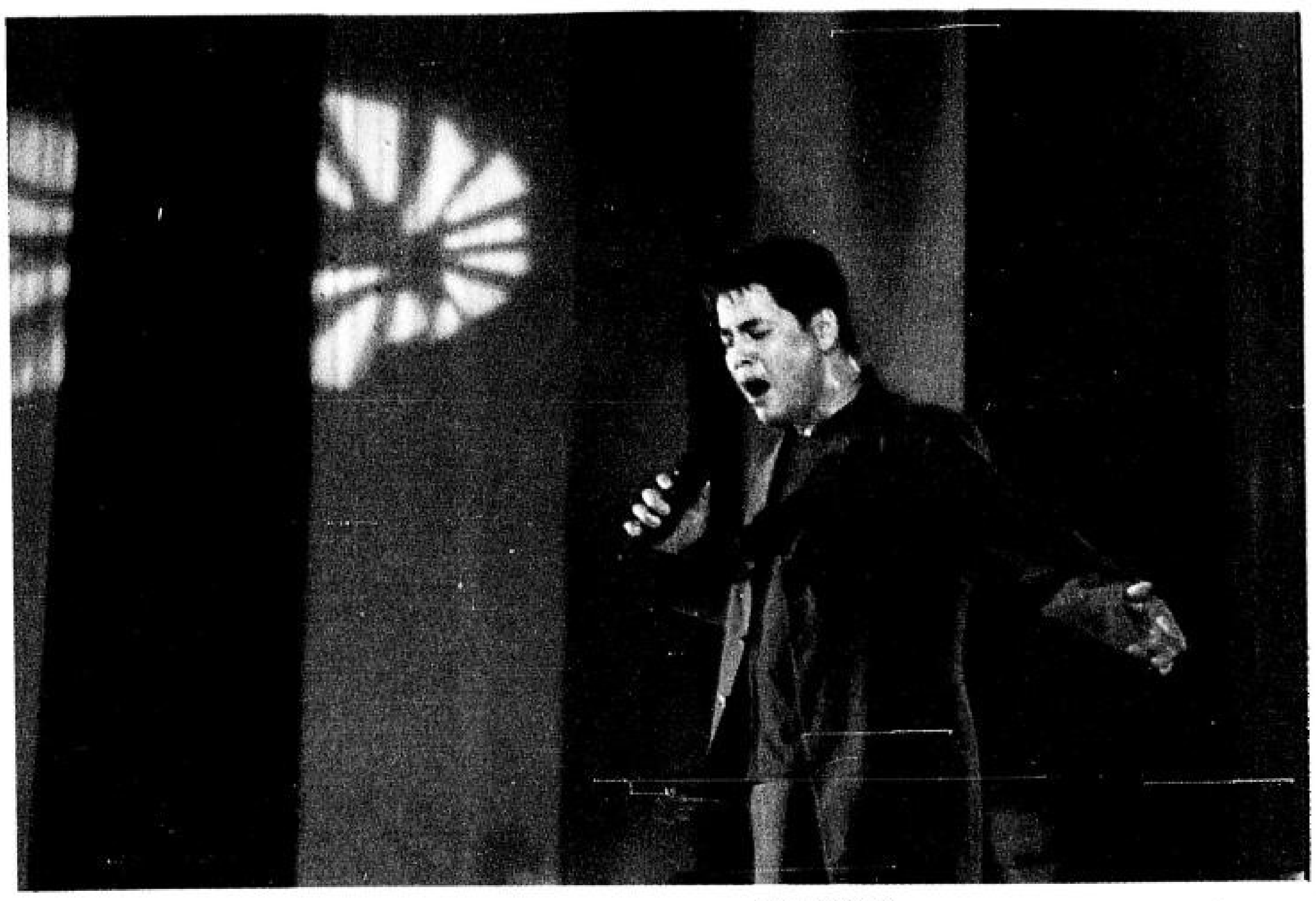
It is the eve of Nievera's "XV4EVER" concert tour, which will take the singer to Cebu, Bacolod, Clark and the Araneta Coliseum. The music video for "To Say Goodbye" has been nominated one of the top five most popular music videos by MTV Asia. "My Souvenirs," the album of covers from which "To Say Goodbye" was taken is the second best-selling OPM album in a leading retail chain, just behind Regine Velasquez's latest. (Its predecessor, "More Souvenirs," is No. 3.)

As if the singer's plate wasn't heaping enough, he has just finished recording a duet with Radha Cuadrado (late of Kulay) for the soundtrack of the upcoming "Austin Powers 3" movie, and another song for "Hot Chicks," a Rob Schneider vehicle. He is also slated to do a duet with R and B crooner Brian McKnight for his next album.

The only sour note comes from the lingering controversy sparked by an article which appeared on a popular local music website alleging that Nievera and his record company MCA Universal — not to mince words — stole the song. (Piracy is theft, as record companies are so fond of telling everyone.)

Last November, an intriguing headline appeared on PhilMusic.com, a website devoted to the local music scene: "New Martin Album In Hot Water Over Copyright Violation. EMI Blows Top Over single 'To Say Goodbye,' Revealed To be An Unlicensed Diane Warren Composition."

As it turns out, there were no composer's credits for the song on the album's cover. The article quoted Nievera as saying that he had "co-written" the song.



ROMY HOMILLADA

Overcoming adversity: Martin sings clear and talks straight

"I don't know how this thing with 'To Say Goodbye' got so big," says Nievera. "What's the deal? This Internet thing is obviously written by somebody trying to ride on whatever popularity I had. They're trying to make a big stink about it because I'm doing well. Now all of a sudden there's a pimple on my face."

Written by Jim Ayson who also runs the website, the article said that EMI, the global music company that administers the composer's publishing was poised to take legal action against Nievera and his record company, and was demanding that the album be taken off the shelves.

Nievera, pleading ignorance, says it was an honest mistake.

"As God is my witness, when I found that tape among all the tapes I was given to record, there were no lyrics, it didn't even have a cover. It was a lousy cassette with the title in pencil. When I listened to it, oh my God! *Ang ganda ng* melody. But I thought it was just an unfinished demo tape so I added a few things to the song."

"I always change the lyrics of songs to make it fit my style, but I always do it with permission," he adds. "I asked the record company to find out who wrote the song because I want to change the lyrics. They said they owned the rights to the song, whatever that means, so go ahead and change the song. *Bitin ako sa* refrain, so in order to repeat it, I had to add a connecting line, and that's all I did. All of a sudden, when it became popular and there was a music video, people were asking me questions that I had no answer to. All I could say was that I co-wrote the song. Maybe that was the wrong terminology because the other writer didn't know. But then again remember, I didn't know who wrote it."

According to the PhilMusic.com story, MCA Universal had asked permission from EMI to use the song as rewritten, but permission was denied. Complicating the matter was the fact that the original song was titled "We Don't Know How To Say Goodbye." Truncating his version's title to "To Say Goodbye" made Nievera and his record company seem even more guilty.

For his part, Nievera claims he didn't even know who Diane Warren was until the Philmusic story came out. While not exactly a household name like Bacharach-David or Lennon-McCartney, Diane Warren is considered by many to be the most prolific and successful songwriter of our time, penning MOR standards for the likes of Barbra Streisand, Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Celine Dion, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera. She has been named ASCAP Songwriter of the Year six times. Her songs have struck platinum too many times to mention, but among her more familiar compositions are "Rhythm of the Night," "Don't Turn Around" and "Unbreak My Heart." "We Don't Know How To Say Goodbye" was actually recorded twice before, in 1993 by British singer Clive Griffin and two years later by Christopher Williams, but it wasn't one of Warren's bigger hits. Until now, that is.

"I was misinformed," says Nievera. "[My record company] told me they owned the rights to the song, so they can do what they want with it. Obviously you cannot do that until you talk to the composer. Now we know. We've learned our lesson."

Nievera says his label has reprinted the album cover to show the right composer credits.

"I think Diane Warren is both surprised and pissed off," surmises Nievera. "Pissed off because she didn't get the credit, surprised because an old song of hers was redone. I would think that would be a compliment to any composer – to have the life of a song continued. But I feel I'm a big name now – I have a Diane Warren song!"

If anyone actually cares about the whole brouhaha (not counting songwriters who are extremely touchy about composer's credits), it doesn't seem to have dampened sales. "My Souvenirs" is selling as briskly as expected. The album is packaged with a bonus VCD which contains the "To Say Goodbye" video, which is also on heavy rotation on MTV. If any legal action is happening, it's happening behind the scenes.

"I'd like to think it's been resolved already," says Nievera. "As far as I'm concerned when someone asks about 'To Say Goodbye' I give all the credit to Diane Warren."

Even as the bitter aftertaste of the controversy is beginning to fade, however, Nievera is facing another setback with the apparent cancellation of his late night television talk show "Late At Night" by ABS-CBN.

"I just wish I had received a little more importance from my station — a letter, a pat on the back, a nice hug maybe, a cake — to say that I did something great, instead of 'Oops! You have no more show!'"

Nievera says it is especially galling since he used to schedule his recordings and concerts around the taping of the late night show.

"'Late At Night' gave me someone to talk to," he says. "I hate to bring this up, but ever since Pops left me, I had no one to talk to. The girl I'm seeing now doesn't even live here. So I have no one to talk to. At the height of my loneliness, the best therapy for me was to have a talk show. I spoke to the camera and to the people every single night — willingly. I never tired of it."

He admits, however, that the show wasn't exactly raking in the advertising big bucks, and that late shows are usually the first to get the axe when reprogramming time comes around.

But as they say, when life hands you a lemon, make lemonade. Looking on the bright side, not having to do the show frees him for other opportunities across the pond. In fact, says Nievera, he pretty much has to be a bicoastal man at this point in his career.

"What more can I do except what I've been doing, to the best of my ability. But that's going to be tiring soon. I want to try other things while I'm still relatively young and still have the energy. Whether I succeed or fail, at least I can say that I tried."

Apart from the movie soundtrack projects he has just finished, Nievera has also received a tempting offer for his own show in a showroom in, dig this, Las Vegas.

"The downside is that I will be away from the Philippines a lot and the only thing that bothers me about that is time away from my children. I can live without being seen in the Philippines. I think the Philippines will always be there for me. I think I've done enough — I hope — to be able to come back at any time and be received warmly."

Nievera adds: "That's the worst thing about the business I'm in — you're never satisfied with what you have or who you are. Unless, of course, all you want is to be famous. Famous is easy. But to actually make a difference in someone's life with your music or your performance — that's what I'm after. And there's a whole world out there — not just in the Philippines — that I have yet to perform for."

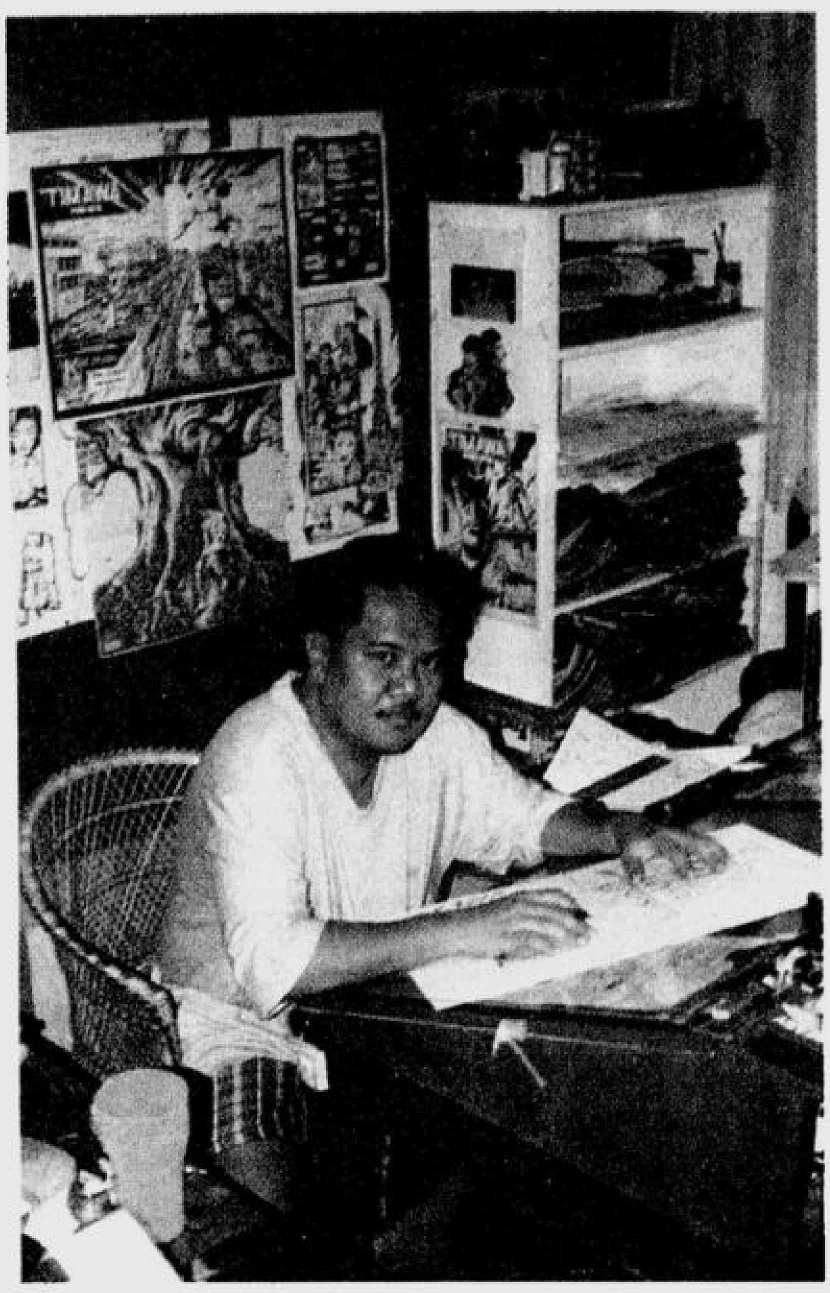
Netizens

By Ruel S. De Vera

What started as an online portfolio for comic book artist Gerry Alanguilan has become a fast forum for discriminating comic fans

Ink and html

IT ALL began rather simply for comic book artist Gerry Alanguilan. "The main purpose of the site was to serve as an online portfolio of my work. I had hoped it would be something I could show people who might be interested in hiring me for various illustration jobs." After all, this 1989 architecture graduate from the University of Santo Tomas has emerged as one of our best comic book talents, having injected humor and vigor into independent comics like "Crest Hot Butt Shop" and that classic of cathartic violence "Wasted." Gerry, 34, is a top-class inker for American comic books such as "Wetworks," "Stone," "X-Force" and "Wolverine," among others since 1995.



But Gerry's homepage (http://www.alanguilan.com/sanpablo) has become much more since it was put up in 1997. After Gerry added a message board and an on-line journal, his homepage has become the number one clearinghouse for ideas about comic books, with fans and creators logging in from here and abroad. The posts can get passionate and fast-paced, with Gerry weighing in frequently and firmly. "I'm happy people like visiting and discussing on the site," he says.

Beyond the message board, Gerry also regularly features a Filipino comic book "Artist of the Month" as well as articles about comics on the homepage. "I want Filipinos to be proud of the work we've done in comics."

Gerry's fans can look forward to many things this year. A movie version of "Wasted," directed by Noel Lim, is due for release, as is a new paperback. He is inking fellow Pinoy Leinil Yu's art for the Cliffhanger/DC Comics limited series "High Roads." With the US-based company Comics Conspiracy, Gerry has just seen his first international exposure as both penciller and inker in the one-shot "The Ochlocrat." He is also planning a project with Alamat Comics "that tackles the legends of the seven lakes of San Pablo City." Gerry, who grew up in and works out of San Pablo, says he wants to "create lasting work that celebrates our roots."

Surfers can peruse his art and opinion on the site, and Gerry promises more new art work and articles for the discerning Filipino comics fanatic. ***SIM*** *recently engaged the talented Gerry in this manic and mundane e-mail discussion.*

SIM: Why should the average Filipino web surfer visit and click on alanguilan.com/sanpablo?

Gerry: I would like them to go if only to let them know that Filipino-made comic books are still very much alive, and have no intention of disappearing.

SIM: If you could come up with an email addy that would properly describe you, what would it be?

Gerry: gerry@komikero.com probably. I checked and komikero.com is still available. Who knows, maybe I'll buy it one day if I can afford it.

SIM: What is your favorite site on the web?

Gerry: Right now it's Pinoy DVD. (http://www.pinoydvd.com) I like it because it's one of the best online communities I have been a part of, and I've been part of a lot. I'm also a DVD freak so it's a great place for me to talk DVDs with like-minded people like me.

SIM: What is your favorite site in the world?

Gerry: I haven't been around too much, so my choices are pretty limited, but Sampaloc Lake here in San Pablo is pretty much the place for me at the moment.

SIM: What is your favorite digital gadget?

Gerry: My DVD player. I think DVDs are amazing because they are probably the best way to show movies at home. The pictures and sound are absolutely stunning first and foremost. But what makes them even more appealing are the extra features that can be included like commentaries, deleted scenes, trailers and so much more.

SIM: What is your favorite analog or non-techie possession?

Gerry: My comic book collection, especially the ones by Frank Miller and Alan Moore.

SIM: What is your favorite food or beverage for getting all wired up for the day?

Gerry: Favorite food is probably chicken *adobo*, with *relyenong bangus* a close second. For drinks, I really like iced tea. I don't know if that gets me wired up but I don't really need anything to drink or eat to get wired up.

SIM: What is your all-time favorite comic book?

Gerry: "Daredevil: Born Again," with "V for Vendetta" a very close second.

SIM: What's the thing you love most about the Internet?

Gerry: To be absolutely honest, it's the speed in which information gets transmitted. If there is something I want information on for a comic book I'm doing, I can just put a few queries on google.com and in just a few minutes I'd get what I'm looking for. I think it's just amazing.

SIM: Conversely, what do you hate most about it?

Gerry: Because I had gotten used to email, I feel sad that I've lost interest in writing actual letters using pen and paper. As for the Internet itself, what I don't like about it is there is so much misinformation going on. Many sites purport to say the truth, when they really don't. Even I have been victimized many times by emails that I get which turned out to be hoaxes.

SIM: If you could have any super-power, what would it be?

Gerry: Heh, heh. This is actually the plot of a comic book I want to do. It's quite complicated, but to put it simply, I want to be able to fly.

SIM: How much has the Internet and digital technology personally changed your life?

Gerry: It really has changed my life a lot. It has affected my work a lot too. With the Internet, I can easily send and receive artwork via email as opposed to FedExing it. Deadlines have become easier to deal with and I don't have to live near my co-workers just to do my work. In a way, it has also helped me be a bit more diplomatic.

SIM: Is the Filipino truly ready to be wired?

Gerry: I think we're born ready. I can say that because I was able to adapt to the Internet quite quickly, and use it like I had been using it my whole life

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People for the Planet

By Nayna Malayang

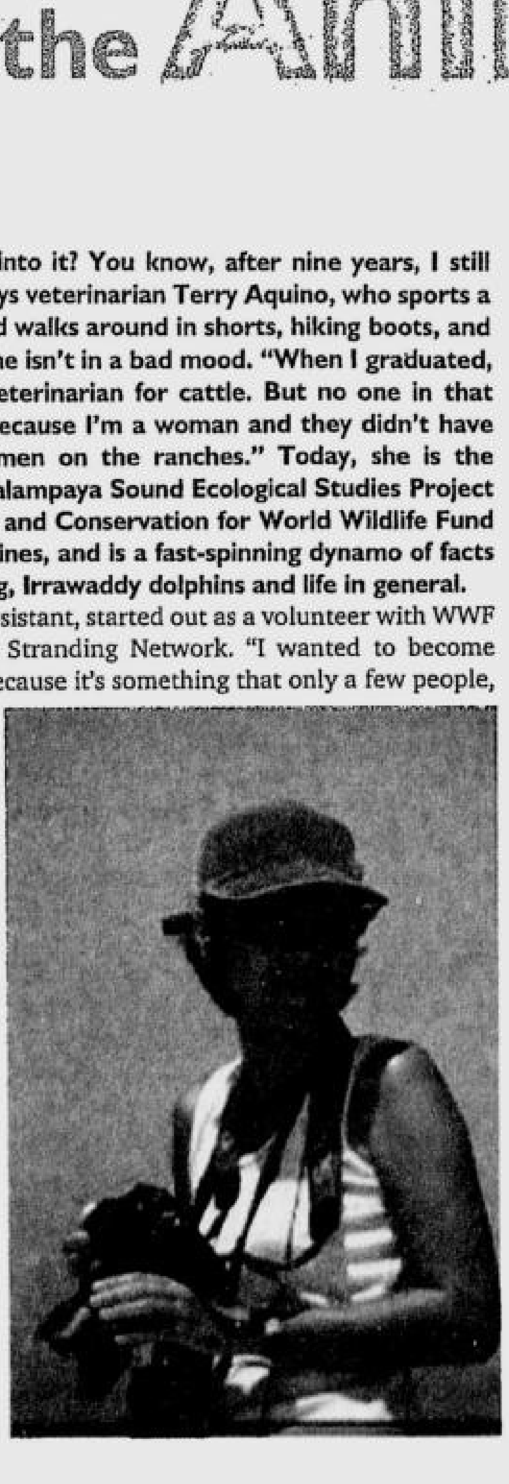
They're young. They're hip. They're lady veterinarians. And they all work for conservation

Saving the Animals, and Then Some

"HOW DID I get into it? You know, after nine years, I still don't know," says veterinarian Terry Aquino, who sports a shaved head and walks around in shorts, hiking boots, and with a ready smile when she isn't in a bad mood. "When I graduated, I really wanted to be a veterinarian for cattle. But no one in that business would take me because I'm a woman and they didn't have separate facilities for women on the ranches." Today, she is the project manager of the Malampaya Sound Ecological Studies Project and the Dugong Research and Conservation for World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines, and is a fast-spinning dynamo of facts and opinions about dugong, Irrawaddy dolphins and life in general.

Mariel Buccat, Terry's assistant, started out as a volunteer with WWF for their Marine Mammal Stranding Network. "I wanted to become involved in conservation because it's something that only a few people, or at least vets, have really gone out and done." Most veterinarians, after passing their board exams, usually turn to agriculture or clinic practice. Although many like to get involved with wildlife, the opportunities to do so here in the Philippines are few.

According to Jom Acebes, another vet in conservation, the only other option for her was the Manila Zoo, and it wasn't very appealing to her at the time. "That's why I jumped at the opportunity to work with WWF. I had a lot of romantic notions about saving the animals. They did warn me that I wouldn't be able to really use my skills as a veterinarian, though." As Terry explains, "In conservation, you're not really treating individual animals for disease or injury. You're trying to save the entire population from being wiped out by human activities. So most of it is research."

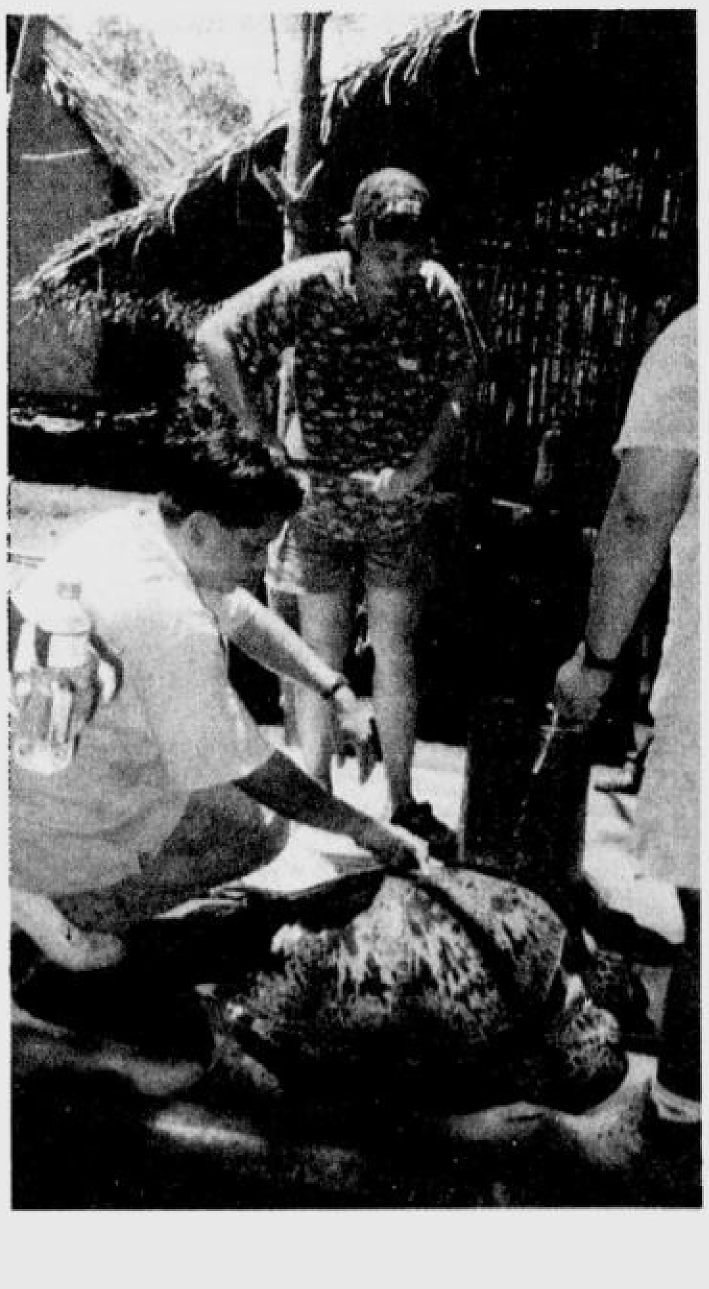


Ari Bautista armed for a marine mammal survey

Jom is tall and lean, a soft-spoken 20-something, the project manager for the Humpback Research and Conservation Project in the Babuyan Islands. Jom says that although she does miss being a vet, she wouldn't trade in her current work in conservation. The humpback whales discovered in the Babuyan Islands in 1999 have put the Philippines on the map as the southernmost known breeding ground for this species in the whole of the Western Pacific. As of this writing, Jom's team of researchers and volunteers are the first and only group in the country conducting research on these whales. "This will be something that I will be proud to and be very privileged to have been a part of. I don't think I could have said the same if I had just opened a clinic somewhere."

Mariel agrees that most of the work in conservation is research, but there is room for a little vet practice. "Conservation is sometimes a hard idea to sell to local communities. If they need the food, how do you tell them to save the dugongs or the dolphins? And of course we are outsiders, so that is sometimes an obstacle, too. But when they find out you're a vet, they come to you with their sick pigs or cows or

To page 7



Mariel Buccat (center, in cap) and other conservation workers keep a *pawikan* cool

Celebrities

By [illegible] Silvestre Jr.

He dips everything in vinegar, she camps out in the bathroom. Newlyweds Jessa and Dingdong Avanzado discover there's more to marriage than just a flashy media event

Honeymoon Suite

IT feels like one has blundered into the set of a romance movie. Lovers gently teasing each other. One teases, and the other blushes. The couple snuggling into each other in a sofa meant for two. Clearly, it's a honeymoon scene.

Except that Jessa Zaragoza and Dingdong Avanzado have been married for months now and have, in fact, just moved into their new home. The place seems designed to show off the couple's pleasure in each other's company. The lanai has been converted into a home movie corner because both enjoy watching movies. The dining room and kitchen take as much floor space as townhouse living would allow since they both love good food. Their wedding album sits in a special corner, the way a Bible or a diploma does in other people's homes.

"The wedding album is not something to be kept and forgotten," says Dingdong. "It should be there for the couple to see to remind themselves of their commitment to each other."

If the thick, heavy and undoubtedly expensive album were a measure of the couple's past, present and future, then there is much to look back on and much more to look forward to.

The present is concert-filled. Jessa and Dingdong have just arrived from a post-Christmas US sojourn where Jessa had a concert that Dingdong himself directed. On February 9 at the Folk Arts Theater, they will topbill "Dingdong and Jessa...In Love," with the former again directing. The concert will feature the couple's respective hits and the love songs that have defined their relationship through the years.

"It's the first time we're going to be together onstage, " says Dingdong who has either guested in or directed Jessa's earlier concerts. "Our coming concert is Dingdong's concept from start to finish," says Jessa proudly. "In a way, it's about our love affair," Dingdong adds. "We promise our audience they'll want to be in love if they're not yet in love. Or if they are, they'll want to stay in love."

Indeed, it is the couple's love story, one that has seen ups and downs, as well as controversies that hounded them well into the days just before their wedding. Her family didn't exactly like him. He was the subject of one sexy star's frustrations articulated in a multimedia Dingdong and Jessa-bashing extravaganza.

But the couple walked the aisle anyway and settled in Blue Ridge, at Dingdong's family home. Just before Christmas last year, they moved into their townhouse where, when they're not doing shows here and abroad, they learned to adjust to each other's quirks.

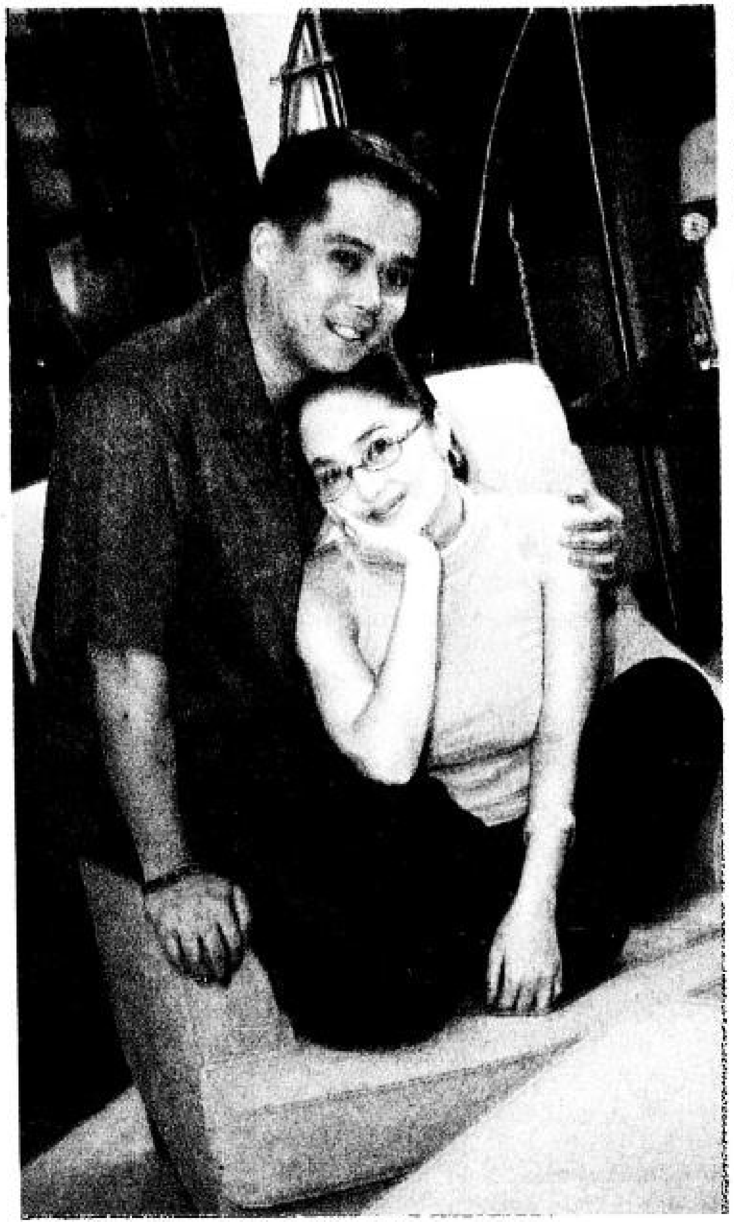
Jessa was shocked to discover that Dingdong loves to dip his food in vinegar. "Even ham and other cold cuts. I thought that was funny," she says.

"She camps out in the bathroom," counters Dingdong.

Says Jessa: "Well, he takes too long choosing what to wear."

From Dingdong: "She'd wake up ahead of everyone and make her list of to-do's for the day. Then she'd fix things around. I'd tell her that no matter what she does, things will get messed up anyway so take it easy. I call her Ms. *Butingting*."

MIKE ALQUINTO



Bliss: Dingdong and Jessa discover they're homebodies

"I don't like the way he puts away his things in the closet," Jessa reveals.

She recalls how once, after she had arranged their stuff in the closet, Dingdong comes in with a bunch of clothes and things they had inadvertently left in Blue Ridge. "But I'm done with fixing the closet," she protests. "So fix it again," he counters. Jessa ended up crying, with her husband comforting her.

"But those are minor disagreements, part of getting to know each other better," Dingdong rationalizes. "All in all I feel good and happy."

To Dingdong, the best part about being married is "knowing that you have found someone you'd want to spend the rest of your life with. The married life becomes me. At 33, I am meant to be married. I've had my share of the bachelor's life."

"I like the part about the partnership," says Jessa. "I consult him on anything."

Being married is a novel feeling, she says, one she discovers anew every morning, "when I wake up and find a man sleeping beside me. And so handsome yet."

To Dingdong, being married means little changes like "having to call home if I am arriving late, or consulting her about certain decisions. It's not just me alone anymore."

It is their professional life that has been the subject of controversies, one that Dingdong has downplayed. "There's no professional rivalry between us. Her success is my success. There's no ego problem here.

"If we all realize that our successes come from God alone, then there's no point in being proud or being insecure because you simply know it is God alone who is responsible for all these. The glory is His, not ours."

"Dingdong is my number one fan. But he is also my number one critic," states Jessa. "He remains my idol. *Pa*-autograph *naman, o*" she quips.

From all indications, it is a happy home life they share.

"We're homebodies," reveals Dingdong, adding that they watch movies at home, order in food most of the time and play badminton at the nearby Celebrity Club. Occasional malling means a movie or just walking around, "holding hands, *pa*-sway-sway *pa*," says Jessa.

Theirs is a very private existence, especially because Dingdong, a former Quezon City councilor, has taken time off from politics and now prefers to concentrate on his music career, including directing and conceptualizing concerts.

After their February 9 concert, the couple will work on their respective albums and soon after, their concert tour in the United States.

"It's also our honeymoon tour," says Dingdong as he holds Jessa's hands while snuggling in the lazy chair meant for one.

For tickets to "Dingdong and Jessa...In Love," visit the CCP box-office, Music Museum, National Bookstores, Tower Records, Ticket World and Robinsons Department Stores in Manila and Galleria.

All in the Game

By Natalia F. Diaz

Former badminton star Weena Lim now fights new battles as a national sports official

A Different Court

WEENA Lim stands proud on a different court these days. Having reigned for almost two decades in the badminton court, she now calls the shots on a different battleground as a commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission, looking as comfortable in a crisp black suit as she does in worn-out dragonfly rubber shoes. "I really enjoy it here, because anything that has to do with sports makes me happy," she shares. Her energy fills the room as she talks animatedly about her extraordinary shift from serving smashes to serving the public.

Amparo Lim, more fondly known as "Weena," was only 10 when she first picked up a badminton racket. At 13, she joined the Philippine national team as its youngest member, winning most of the junior singles and doubles titles. The highlight of her athletic career was when she cleared the tough qualifying rounds for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, becoming the very first Filipino Olympian in badminton.

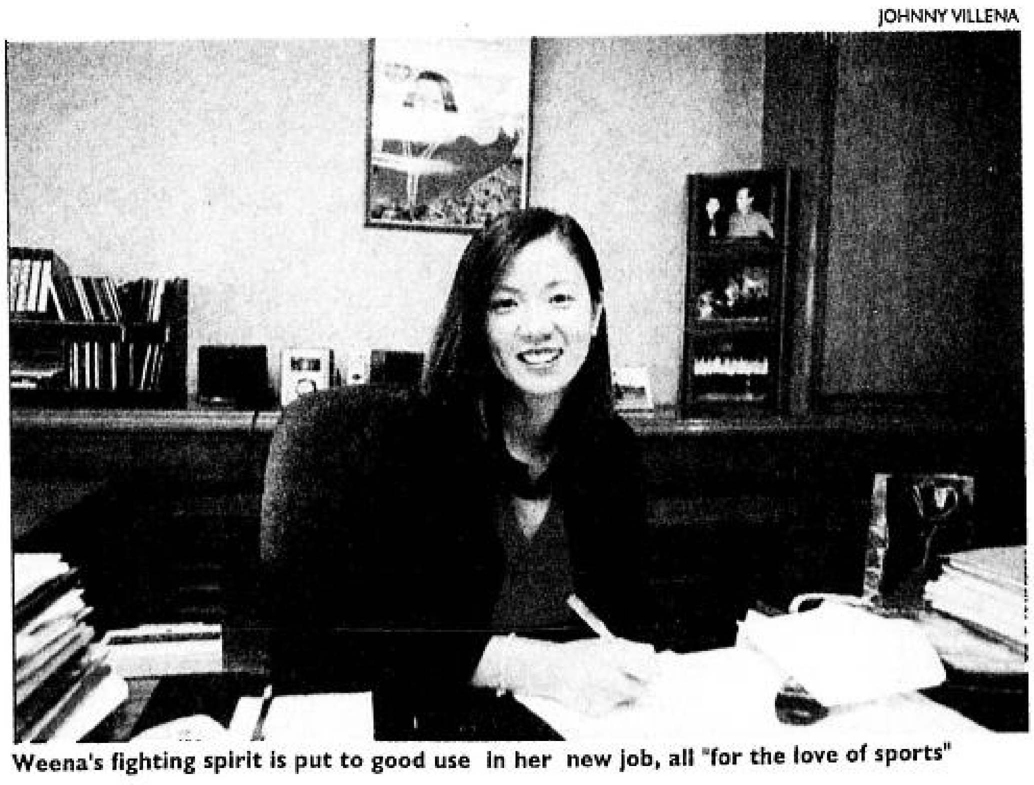
Weena reminisces on one of the hardest and proudest moments of her athletic career, when she and doubles partner Kennie Asuncion won a bronze medal at the 1997 Southeast Asian games in Jakarta. Pitted against Southeast Asian countries like Thailand and Indonesia, where badminton is a national pastime, winning was considered a near-impossible feat. Yet Weena and her partner managed to upset higher ranked Thais in a hard-fought game, and they brought home what was aptly termed a "shining bronze."

Her love for the game, enhanced by a keen sense of nationalism ultimately fueled her 18-year drive to be at the top of the ranks. It was only when Weena was officially appointed to the PSC in May 2000 that she realized she could not continue balancing both a rigorous training schedule and an equally demanding job. "I'm a perfectionist. I'm the type of person who gives my very best; I didn't want to give just half of myself to any one venture. So it was about time to say goodbye to my badminton career and look forward to being a commissioner."

Weena admits that adjusting to her new role was not easy at first. It took her almost six months to really learn the intricacies of the PSC. But her experience as an athlete remains a big advantage for her, as she likens herself to a big sister who sympathizes with the struggles of the athletes she looks after. "I know how it is to train, the hardship and injuries you endure as an athlete, so I understand what they feel and I try to shelter them from the politics of it all."

Perhaps that understanding stems from once being a victim of politics herself. Several years ago, she was excluded from the national team because of political skirmishes with the badminton association then. Her most painful experience was when she personally funded her trip to the United States to compete, only to be informed she could not play because she wasn't acknowledged as part of the national team. The harrowing experience pushed her to the brink of quitting the sport. It was her coach, Nelson Asuncion, who inspired her to not lose hope. Against all odds, she trained alone, organized her own tournaments and invited other people to train with her, just to stay in top form. "Those two years were really a struggle for me but it made me a better person," she says in retrospect.

JOHNNY VILLENA



Weena's fighting spirit is put to good use in her new job, all "for the love of sports"

That fighting spirit prevails to this day as she pushes the PSC to fully realize her goals, namely a gold medal in an international event. Knowing the government is plagued with other problems, pushing sports down on the list of priorities, she tries to boost marketing in order to get the private sector interested in several sports programs. "I feel that there are sports other than basketball that we can also be good at and be excited about," she declares, naming boxing, Wu Shu, gymnastics, table tennis, Tae Kwon Do, Karate Do and of course, badminton.

As a living testament to the rewards of joining sports at an early age, Weena is particularly focused on promoting athletics among the youth. "I always say that sports is a tool for nation building. If we could keep all our school children in sports, they will learn the values of discipline, perseverance and professionalism that they will carry throughout their lives, whether they become government officials or private citizens," she asserts. "I want a road show. Instead of bringing children to Manila for training, I want to bring the coaches out there, and set up training centers so children won't feel dislocated—they will train where they're most comfortable, near their home."

Weena believes that there is definitely a heightened sense of competition among the youth today, as evidenced by her recent national project, the third Batang Pinoy tournament held last December in Bacolod. "Bringing glory to your country, wearing the country's flag while you're marching among the world's best is an unbelievable feeling that makes all your sacrifices worth it in the end."

In spite of Weena's competitive, gung-ho attitude towards sports as evident in her words, she remains grounded by a simple fact, the reason why she got into badminton in the first place. "Don't ever forget that sports is fun! It's for the love of it that you should get involved!"

And that is Weena's winning formula.

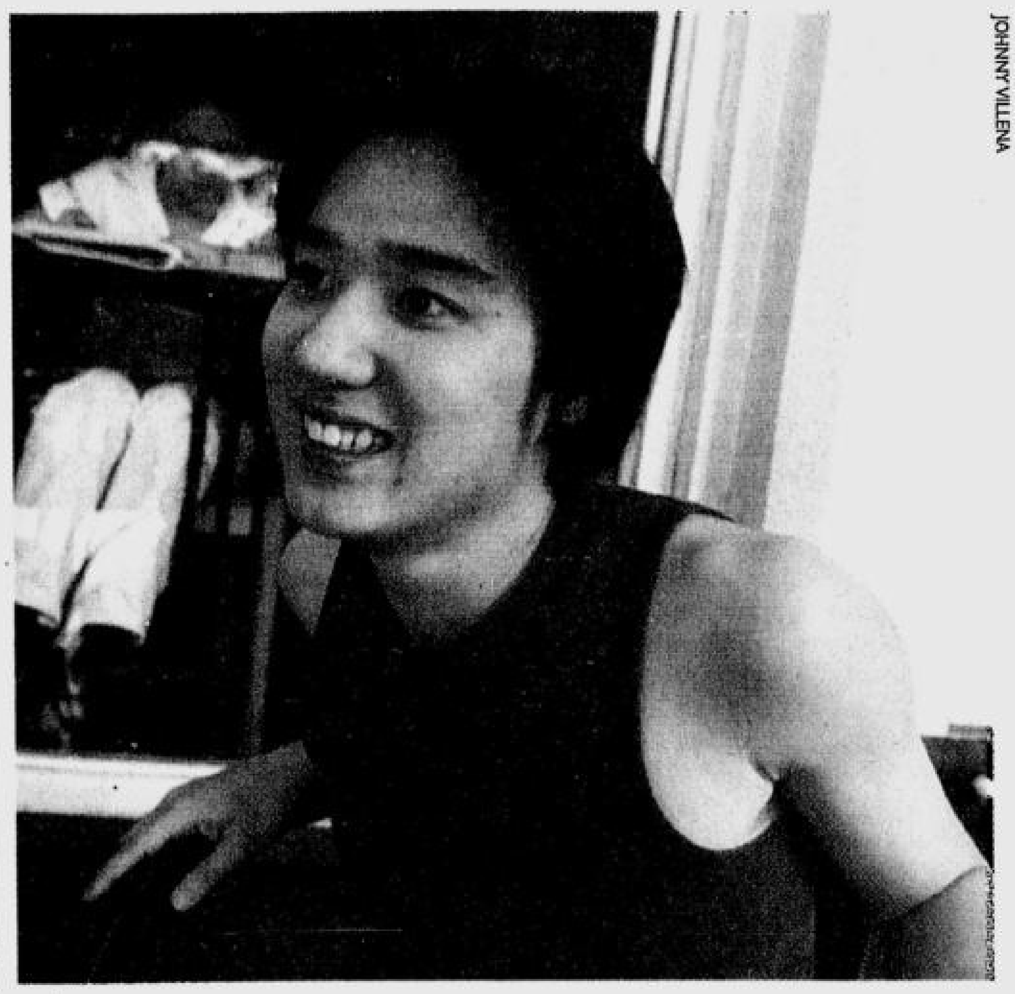
Artwatch

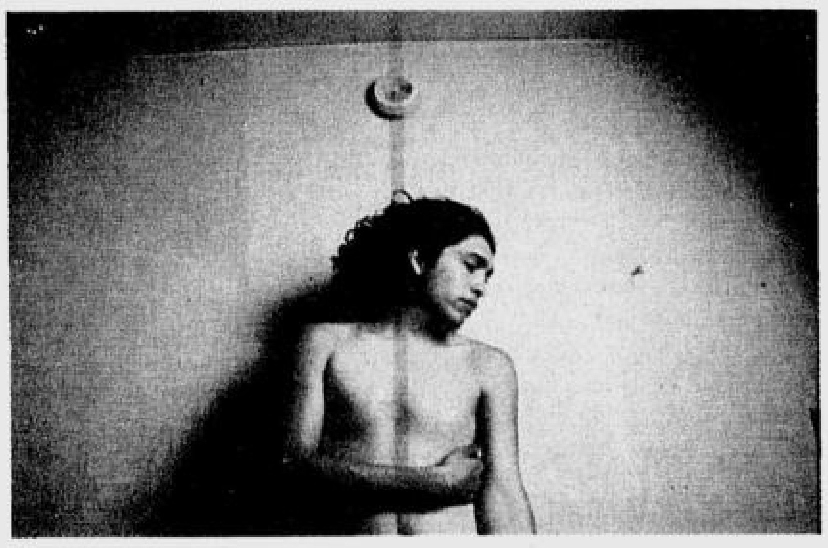
By Joy Rojas

A vertical line turns photographer Jay Campos III's pretty pictures into statements about boundaries and choices

Double Vision

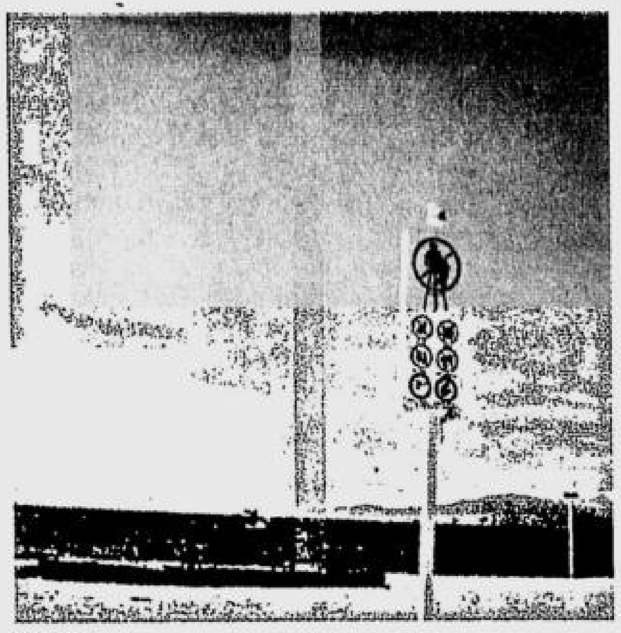
JOSE Benedict Campos III's ability "to see the world differently from other people" not only explains why he picked photography over previous artistic pursuits like piano or dance ("I'm impulsive, I like things to happen really quickly") but why his pictures look the way they do. At 21, the guy who goes by the nickname Jay takes a portrait as if he were writing a story, and finds art and emotion even in the most mundane of things.


JOHNNY VILLENA

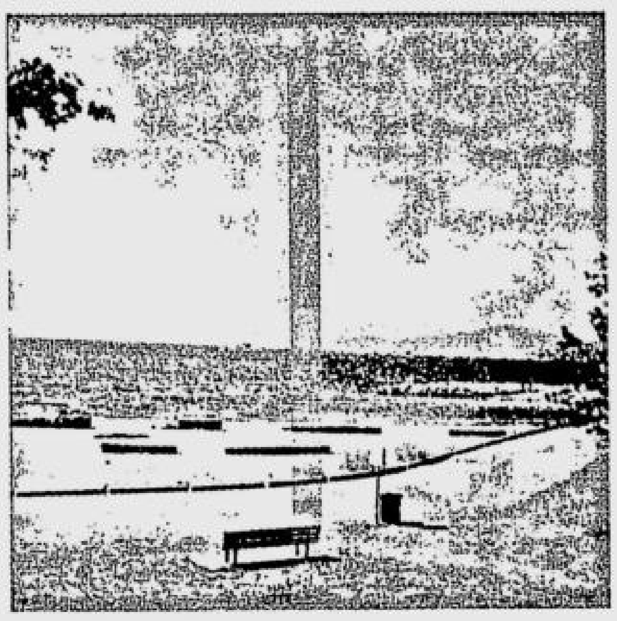


Visual storyteller Jay Campos; vertical lines creating divisions, below, or splitting a person in two, below right

"A lot of people tell me, oh, you're young; when you get old you'll specialize and find your niche," says Jay, a veteran of four diverse one-man exhibitions and numerous fashion shoots for Metro magazine. "But it's so hard for me to focus on one thing because I always like looking around. I wish I could show all faces or objects, but that's not who I am. I like running around with my camera and when I see something that captivates my eye, I photograph it. And I don't just try to come up with pretty images but pictures with something deeper behind them."



Such was the case of "Balance Within," Jay's recent solo show held in cooperation with the Canadian Embassy at the Hiraya Gallery in Ermita, Manila. Spawned from a private journal in which he "would draw acrylic lines through the words," the photographer's fifth one-man effort features 30 colored images of people, places and things shot outside the Philippines, each one with a vertical line running over it. More than just a visual accent, the digitally added lines give a whole new meaning to a portrait or scenery.



"It can create boundaries. If it splits through a person, it might mean choosing sides. A line can be seen as a path sometimes," says Jay, who used a Canon and Polaroid to capture his rich collection. "But it's not always about me and how I see the line. I'd like people to figure out how they see the line in relation to the subject and themselves." Jay, in fact, welcomes all kinds of interpretations: in lieu of providing individual titles for each photo, he listed down a series of possible explanations ("The line compares," "The line is a reflection of the past," "We can all create our own lines") and had visitors decide which description suited which image best.

"I didn't want to spoonfeed the works to the audience," he reasons. "I wanted them to think for themselves. And if they come back another day, the descriptions would have changed, so by looking at the photo again they might get another insight into it."

Not one to fall under a predictable category himself (his works and personality have been described as "chameleon-like"), Jay is wont to cross over lines that confine his self-expression. He is comfortable shooting anything ("Photography is all about capturing light on film," he argues, "so what's the point of limiting yourself to just fashion or architecture?"), and doesn't just study photography but a host of subjects at his liberal arts school in Amherst, Massachusetts. "What I learned from college," he says, "is to question everything."

Interestingly, Jay, who comes from a business-oriented family and was briefly enrolled at the University of Asia and the Pacific, appears inclined to try it out himself in the future, perhaps through a consulting company. "Photography is about business, in a sense," he notes. "And business relates to everything." What's the one line that remains a constant in this chameleon's life? "Art," Jay declares, "no matter what, will always be with me."

First Person

By Fr. Emmanuel R. Fernandez, Ph.D.

My calling has actually prepared me for my job as a foreign service officer, answering the consular and spiritual needs of some seven million Filipino overseas workers

The Diplomat Priest

THAT'S the question people usually ask when they learn that I'm a Foreign Service Officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Depending on *who* is asking the question, it can be interpreted two ways: 1) "Shouldn't you be doing something more 'priestly,' like serving as pastor of a parish, or teaching theology or religion courses? Why are you wasting your time in a place like that?" 2) "Don't you think you're in the wrong place, Father? What can your training and experience as a priest contribute to the field of diplomacy?"

The first is what my friends in the church have in mind when they ask the question. The second is what some of my colleagues in the foreign service want to know when they learn that I am a priest.

There is a certain ambivalence in the way people view diplomats and the work that diplomats do. On the one hand, people hold diplomats in high regard, an attitude that is continually reinforced by, among other things, the very stringent manner in which career diplomats are recruited. The passing percentage of the annual foreign service examinations is horrendously low. In the year 2000, for example, only three of more than 3,000 examinees passed the exams.

People also harbor many romantic images of the diplomatic profession. The widely admired American diplomat, Dr. Henry Kissinger, personifies for most people what diplomacy is all about. Brilliant, eloquent and suave, Dr. Kissinger would be seen enjoying himself at a party in the early hours of the evening. Then, as night drew near, he would smoothly disappear and be driven to a waiting private plane which would take him to a clandestine meeting in some undisclosed location. Except for a few people, nobody knew where he went, whom he met, what they talked about. Some months later, the media would be abuzz with the news of a major breakthrough in the United States' relations with Red China, Vietnam, the former USSR and the global community in general. So when most people think of diplomacy, they think of Dr. Kissinger and his exciting world of cocktail parties, secret plane trips, clandestine negotiations, official visits to heads of states, and groundbreaking conferences.

On the other hand, people also hold a lot of rather unflattering views about diplomats and their profession. Jokes about diplomats and diplomacy abound. Some samples: "Diplomacy – The art of saying 'Nice doggie' till you can find a rock." (attributed to Wynn Catlin) Or, "A diplomat is a person who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you actually look forward to the trip." (Caskie Stinnett)

In short, for a lot of people, a diplomat is nothing but a well-dressed, well-mannered and articulate "twister of words." (I didn't say liar.) He is one who earns his daily bread by practicing the dubious craft of equivocation.

I used to view diplomats with this same sense of ambivalence, although at some point, my attitude leaned towards respect as some of the authors I admired were at one time in their lives diplomats, such as former UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold and the Nobel-prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda.

Then some time in 1997 when my attention was caught by a blue poster I read while walking on the ground floor of the UP Faculty Center. It was an announcement of the annual Foreign Service Officers' Examinations and the number to call for details. I made the call and was given information on what to review for the exams (world history; international affairs; Philippine political, economic, social and cultural conditions; and one foreign language other than English). I decided to shift my daily reading diet to books on those subjects and tried to salvage what I could of the Spanish lessons I had in high school and the seminary. Before I knew it, I was taking the 1998 FSO exams together with thousands of others.

When the results came, nobody was more surprised than myself. Out of the 11 examinees who finally made it, I ranked second with a grade of 84.675. The top notcher scored 84.888.

I finally joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in January 2000. In keeping with the principle of the separation of Church and State, I have to settle for a guest-priest status in a parish so I could at least say Mass on weekends. But this temporary sacrifice has proven to be worth it in the long haul. Because the service I am currently rendering in the Department is priestly in everything except its official name. The DFA's Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs is tasked with rendering assistance to the more than seven million Filipinos scattered all over the globe. The assistance we extend ranges from providing legal help to Filipinos who have run afoul of the law in their host countries, to tracing the whereabouts of missing Filipinos, facilitating the shipment of the remains and personal effects of departed Filipinos, repatriating those who wish to go back home but who do not have the means, helping claim wages and benefits due, counseling families they have left behind, and participating in legislative and executive efforts to address the concerns of Filipino migrant workers.

To page 7

This Week

Art

Jason Oliveria holds a solo exhibit of his recent works on paper at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City until Feb. 6.

Resonuance, abstract paintings by Rock Drilon until Feb. 7 at the Art Center, 4/L SM Megamall A.

Square One, a solo exhibit by Tres Roman until Feb. 8 at Gallery Nine, Jupiter St., Bel-Air, Makati City. All works featured are done in oil on square canvases. For details, call 899-2704.

First Wave, a solo exhibit by Alon de Guzman in gouache and watercolor at the Surreala Café, Mother Ignacia corner Timog Avenues, Quezon City until Feb. 9. For details, call 411-2424.

The cast of "*Ang Pagkapatay kay Luna,*" staged by Tanghalang Pilipino at the CCP

Rerun, paintings by Egai Fernandez, until Feb. 8 at the Blind Tiger Bar and Gallery, 13 Visayas Ave., QC. For details, call 928-1158.

***Artrese sa* 101,** a group exhibit by Aris, Bagtas, Mideo Cruz, Norman Dreo, Melvin Culaba, Thomas Daquioag, Sam Penaso, Nick Pongan, Wilfredo Offemaria, Francisco Umadhay, Aner Sebastian, Edmund Samonte, Ronaldo Ruiz, Ricardo Reyes, Raoul Rodriguez and Jevijoe Vitug at Gallery 101, Quezon Avenue, 2/F Kaimo Building, cor. Sto. Domingo, QC until Feb. 8.

Bodyscape, Emma Navarro's acrylic works on canvas until Feb. 7 at the Big and Small Art Co., 4/F SM Megamall Building A.

Breathe, series of large-scale oil paintings by Katrina Miranda at Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall until Feb. 10.

Valentine's Sale, big discounts on paintings of master artists Juvenal Sanso, Marcel Antonio, Hermes Alegre, Manuel Baldemor, Larry Memije, Lydia Velasco, Mario Panis and many more at Gallerie Denise, Kingswood Arcade, Vito Cruz Ext. cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City until Feb. 15. For details, call 895-1152.

Music

***Musiko Mundo: Pinoy* World Music Concert,** a two and half-hour performance of Filipino renowned music artists Makiling Ensemble, Puro Ritmo, Pinikpikan, Cynthia Alexander and Grace Nono, Feb. 9, 6 p.m. at the CCP Front Lawn Area. With the aim to develop a deeper awareness and appreciation of the Filipino world of music here and abroad, a guest VJ will grace the affair and highlights of the event will be aired on MTV Asia. The concert is open to the public. For details, call 832-2314.

Miriam College presents the Metro Manila Community Orchestra in a **Symphony Sampler Concert** on Feb. 6, 7 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall of Equitable PCIBank Building, Makati. Taking centerstage are Miriam College's homegrown artists both from the faculty and student ranks.

Zsa Zsa Padilla recently launched her latest album, **In My Life... Zsa Zsa Live!,** under Viva Records. The album includes a medley of revivals of all-time hits, a Barbra Streisand medley, a medley of Louie Ocampo's hits and a hit covers medley to include songs from Zsa Zsa's "Sentiments" album.

Natural, the new boy band behind the hit song "Put Your Arms Around Me," will hold a series of campus and mall tours on Feb. 5, 6 and 7. Natural is comprised of Ben Bledsoe, Josh Horn, Michael Johnson, Patrick King J. and Marc Terenzi. For inquiries, call 817-5926.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Cinema

Pelikula@titusbrandsma will screen the following movies for free on Feb. 9 starting at 1 p.m.: "L'Avventura," "The Cranes Are Flying" and "A Pornographic Affair." Titus Brandsma is located at 24 Acacia St., New Manila, QC. For inquiries, call 726-7763.

Onstage

Kathakali, a group presentation where dancers take various roles traditionally based on Hindu mythology especially the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, will be performed by the Sadanam Theater Troupe of Kerala, India today at 2 p.m. at the CCP Main Theater. For details, call 832-1125 loc. 1600.

e-dance Theater Concert version 1.0, an interesting media mix of contemporary dance, music, video and electronic media to deliver the message of peace to the Internet generation, Feb. 3, 5 p.m. at the Shangri-La Plaza Edsa Mall and Feb. 19 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. For inquiries, call 527-2192.

Balete, PETA's stage adaptation of F. Sionil Jose's novel, "Tree" at the Rajah Sulayman Theater, Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila on Feb. 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, March 1 and 2. For details, call 410-0822.

Rashomon, an adaptation for the stage of Akira Kurosawa's critically acclaimed 1958 film, Feb 9, 13 and 15 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 13 at 1 p.m.; and Feb 16 (gala) at 7 p.m. at the Telengtan Hall, APEC Communications Building, UA&P, Ortigas Complex, Pasig. For details, call 635-0529.

Neo-Filipino: Barangay Asia, a combination of contemporary dance styles based on Asian traditional dance, music and martial arts presented by Ballet Philippines on Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. with 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. shows on Feb. 9 and 10. For inquiries, call 551-1003 and 551-0221.

Ang Pagkapatay kay Luna, Tanghalang Pilipino's historical musical interpreting the assassination of Antonio Luna as having been engineered by the *autonomistas* who were making a deal with the Americans for Philippine autonomy, Feb. 3, 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 2:30 p.m. with 8 p.m. shows on Feb. 15 and 22 at the CCP's Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino. Tickets available at the gate and all Ticketworld outlets.

Atbp

The Japan Foundation Manila Office will sponsor a **Japanese Language Teachers' Seminar** on Feb. 9 at the Mandell Hall, 2/F, Trinity College, Cathedral Heights, QC. Deadline for submission of the duly accomplished registration form will be on Feb. 6. For details, call 811-6155 to 58.

The Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing and Research Center of De La Salle University-Manila is inviting young critics to apply for fellowship to **Kritika 2002**, the first art criticism workshop in the country to be held on May 9-16. Isagani R. Cruz is workshop director. Interested applicants must submit and address their application to Dr. Marjorie Evasco, Director, Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing and Research Center, De La Salle University, 2401 Taft Avenue, Manila 1004. The application should include the following: cover letter, a good copy of one published critical paper, curriculum vitae with a 2" x 2" ID photo and self-addressed stamped envelope. Deadline for application is February 16. Applicants selected for the fellowships will be notified by mail.

Peace *na Tayo*, a 40-minute puppet play for Grade 1 to Grade 3 students in selected schools in Manila featuring ventriloquist Ony Carcamo and his puppets Dodong (a funny bird), Ka Lario (a wise *lolo*) and Kenet (a boy) in their exploration of the values of peace and friendship. For details, call 527-2192 loc. 612 to 615.

The second annual **reunion of the US International Visitor Program alumni** will be held on Feb. 9 from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the main lobby and theater of the Cultural Center of the Philippines with the theme "Individual and Social Transformation through Volunteerism." For details, call Justice Zenaida Elepaño at 524-9260 or Aniceto Sobrepeña at 817-1435.

The Polytechnic University of the Philippines Information and Communications Technology Center will launch a **hands-on training for online marketing** for cooperatives and small and medium enterprises in the National Capital Region to be held on Feb. 7 at the PUPICTC, Mabini campus, Sta. Mesa, Manila. For inquiries, call 338-7417.

Join the three-day **Self-Transformation Seminar** conducted by the Theosophical Society featuring self-mastery and development, awakening of one's higher potential; handling fear, stress, resentment; developing effective relationships and self-awareness; conquering bad habits and behaviors; understanding love and caring. For details, call 741-5740 and 743-1181.

Tequila Joe's celebrates its fourth anniversary on Feb. 8 with a **masquerade party and mardi gras parade** starting at 9 p.m. in its branches at El Pueblo in Ortigas, Alabang Town Center and Glorietta 4.

Catch the NCCA ***Tipong Pinoy* Series** on primetime cable that features anything and everything Filipino: the Ifugao epic *hudhud*, the *bahay na bato*, or the *tinikling*. The National Commission for Culture and the Arts produced the series in an effort to show to the Pinoy her diverse and colorful heritage. For details, call 527-2192 loc. 609.

Free introductory lecture on **Maharishi's Transcendental Meditation Technique.** Enjoy the experience of peace, happiness, health and affluence through this scientifically proven technology of developing the full potential of the human mind, body, behavior and environment. For inquiries, call 7228927. Lectures are held every Sunday, 3 p.m. by appointment.

Every Monday night at Padi's Mindave Restaurant Bar, Mindanao Avenue cor. Congressional Avenue, QC, aspiring models are invited to join the **Modelo King and Queen of Ramp** competition, showcasing female and male contestants modeling trendy streetwear, rave wear and sexy swimwear. Every Thursday night, young men and women with healthy physiques are invited to join the Fashion 21 Aldo Cosmetics Mr. & Ms. Superbody Bikini Competition. For details, call 453-0080, 700-5221 to 23.

X-manila

Arts n' Philosophy III : Contemporary Perspectives, an exhibit of visual and literary works, and philosophical quotations of the contemporary philosophers of art featuring the paintings of NU2 and other amateur artists of the University of Pangasinan until Feb. 9. For inquiries, call 0919-4417943.

Landscapes and Still Lifes, an exhibit on environmental elements, human interest and still lifes using color ballpen and melted crayon by Lito L. De Guzman at the Gallery of Fine Arts, John Lawrence Detwiler Memorial Library, Adventist University of the Philippines, Putingkahoy, Silang, Cavite until Feb. 28.

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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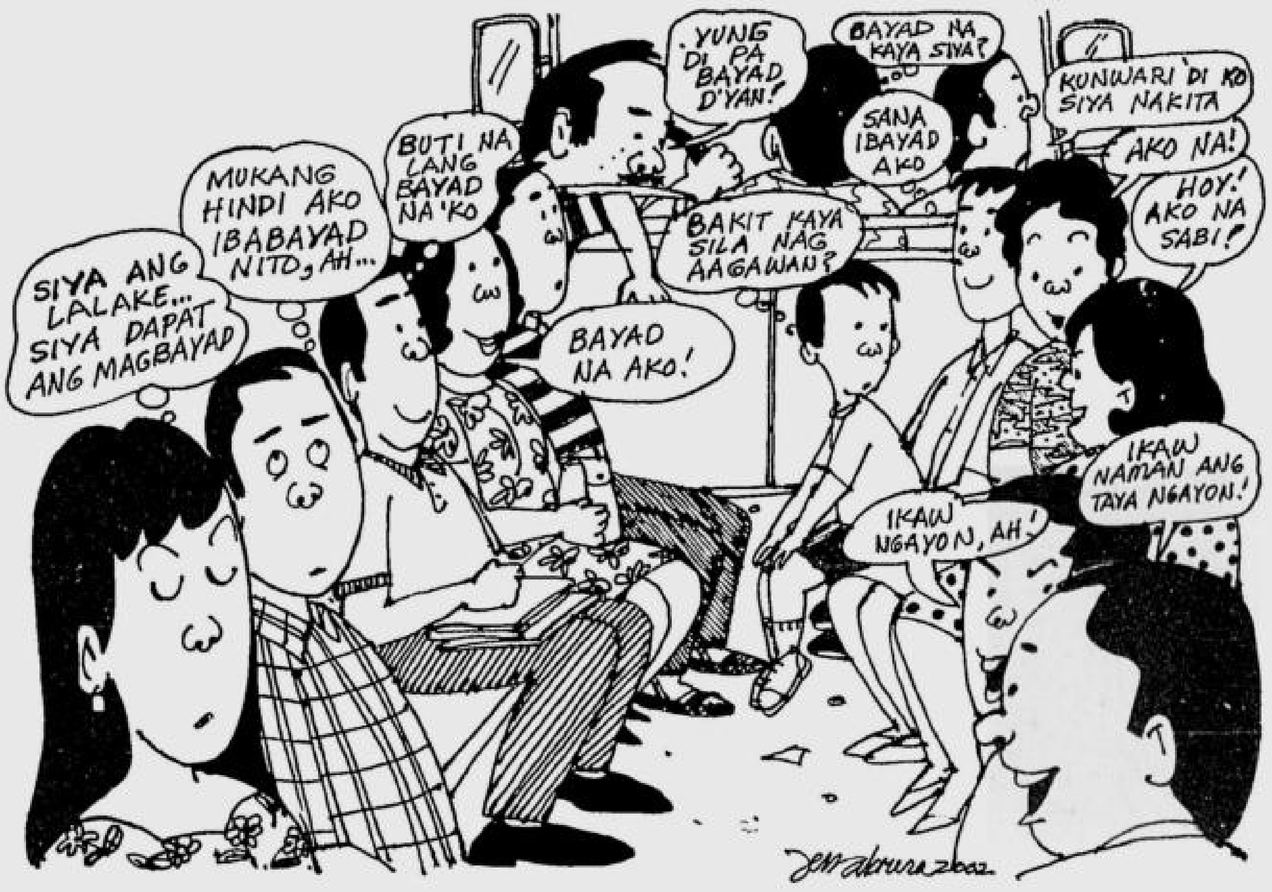
Pinoy Nga

by Jess Abrera

Pasahe


SIYA ANG LALAKE... SIYA DAPAT ANG MAGBAYAD
MUKANG HINDI AKO IBABAYAD NITO, AH...
BUTI NA LANG BAYAD NA 'KO
YUNG DI PA BAYAD D'YAN!
BAYAD NA KAYA SIYA?
SANA IBAYAD AKO
KUNWARI DI KO SIYA NAKITA
AKO NA!
HOY! AKO NA SABI!
BAKIT KAYA SILA NAG AAGAWAN?
BAYAD NA AKO!
IKAW NAMAN ANG TAYA NGAYON!
IKAW NGAYON, AH!
Jess Abrera 2002

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

The Gift of Blessedness

We're entering the Season of Lent—a season of prayer, fasting and alms giving for peace. Let's journey together in faith and trust that God will hear our cry for peace and heal our land

THE Beatitudes of Mt. 5 and Lk. 6 are about taking the risk of doing only what the Spirit of our Father God (Abba, Allah, Yahweh, Bathala) dares us to do. And this is to give and receive forgiveness, to be compassionate as the Father is compassionate, to build bridges of peace in a world engaged in burning bridges and building walls instead, to hunger and thirst only for what is right and just, to remain reconciled and reconciling men and women of peace in a culture of vengeance and death—to do exactly the opposite of what the smart and worldly-wise expect you to do.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

You know that if you choose to take the risk, you will be ridiculed and insulted. The worldly smart will disinherit and reject you, and call you bad names and force you to follow the Suffering Christ of the Passion. You will find yourself feeling helpless, unpopular, poor, very sad and alone.

But it is only after you say "Yes" to the challenge can you deserve to be called "blessed" according to Mt. 5 and Lk. 6. The good news in Mt. 5 and Lk. 6 is "about the compassionate and merciful finding deliverance and joy, the humble and repentant ending up victorious, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness experiencing fullness at last, and those who patiently work for peace, seeing God's promise being fulfilled in every smile on the faces of reconciled and reconciling people in Afghanistan, Basilan and the Erap-Arroyo war zones.

The good news, in other words, is about the poor being enriched, the powerless being empowered, and both the winners and losers coming out conquerors at the end of the day, to inherit the kingdom.

Let us try it, for heaven's sake! Let us make a Valentine covenant with our dear ones.

It's already Ash Wednesday on February 13. We're entering the Season of Lent—a season of prayer, fasting and alms giving for peace. Let's make a difference this year. Let's journey together in faith, and let's trust that God will hear our cry for peace and heal our land.

Call us at 732-8268 or write us at 103 Cordillera St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City 1114.

Just say "Yes," and the force of the spirit will energize our collective cry for peace, and topple the "walls of Jericho."

PEOPLE...from page 4

chickens, and when they see you helping their animals, that makes it easier for them to accept what you are doing for other species."

Ari Bautista has worked for several projects on coral reefs and fisheries resource management. After graduating from marine zoology, she went on to pursue veterinary medicine and currently works with the other vets at WWF doing research on whales and dolphins, and with the Marine Mammal Stranding Network. "The rewards of conservation are never immediate. It's a long process. Some of us may not even live to see how the population of cetaceans (whales and dolphins) will recover, or to see another Philippine eagle in the wild in the next 20 years. But knowing I was able to do something when I had the chance, and making other people aware of the need for conservation, makes all the difference for me."

All four vets agree that there is definitely more room for vets in conservation work. As Ari says, "If you're a vet, you have an innate love for animals." But as Terry and Jom warn, you have to be ready to do a lot more community work than real veterinary practice. In order to really save animals, you have to get to the roots of the problem—usually economics in the local communities, lack of public awareness, and traditional, set ways of thinking. And this goes way beyond simply diagnosing a disease. "There should always be a balance between caring for the animals and caring for the people," says Mariel.

As it goes, conservation is gritty work at best, with none of the financial rewards offered by other jobs. But the fulfillment in being able to work on something greater than yourself, and knowing you are doing it for the good of the living planet, is a priceless thing. As these vets are out to prove, there is always room for more helping hands in the fight for the environment.

For more information about this article or how you can help in conservation work in the Philippines, please e-mail WWF Philippines at kkp@wwf-phil.org.ph

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FIRST...from page 6

The affinity between my priestly calling and my current work in the DFA is so close that sometimes my identities as a priest and as a Foreign Service Officer overlap and complement each other. Not very long ago, while on a consular mission in Japan, my colleagues and I visited a Filipina in detention for allegedly murdering her Japanese husband. When she learned that I am also a priest, she openly shed tears and poured her heart out. The poor woman obviously needed more than consular assistance. There was a spiritual hunger in her that the mere presence of a priest somehow answered.

I am sometimes asked how long I intend to stay in the foreign service, and I usually reply: it depends — upon my Archbishop's continued permission, upon the twists and turns my life will inevitably take in the years ahead, upon the other calls that may come my way in the course of my life's journey. After all, nothing in this life is certain except death and change. But one thing I'm sure of: Working in the foreign service is an experience I shall forever cherish.

Foodies

By Gina Abuyuan Llanes
Photographs by Mike Alquinto

Gerry Apolinario started it all: making that old drinking haunt, the ihaw-ihaw place, respectable enough for dates and families. And the food's not bad, either

Lord of the Grills

WITH five restaurants existing and four more to open within and outside Metro Manila in a little over five years, Gerry Apolinario may be considered a star in his own right. Some may even say he's king.

"Does anybody say that?" he counters, almost nervously. He muses on the title, wondering how it makes him feel. "May *kilig* factor *ba*?" he asks himself, then decides: "No *naman*. It's very gratifying, considering what we went through five years ago...But now, *ihaw-ihaw* king—who would have thought, right?"

Gerry Apolinario is, of course, best known to the public as the guy who "revolutionized" the *ihaw-ihaw* restaurant scene. Once the domain of a mostly-male, after-office, two-for-the-road patrons, Gerry's Grill has defined a more varied market. "Maybe we came up with a better place for everyone to enjoy where you can actually accommodate parties, cater to families and all that. But it's just not Gerry's, everybody else did the same," he says graciously— although Gerry's did come before such places as Krocodile Grillery, Congo Grille, Grilla.

True: A father would hardly think of taking his family to a weekend lunch in Ihaw Balot Plaza, one of the *ihaw-ihaw* joints that started it all. And while many of us have spent many a childhood meal in the time-honored Trellis, it was still a place where, first and foremost, dad hung out. Only later could we call it our territory, too, when we came of age in university. Ditto with fresher alternative Dencio's.

But Gerry's Grill is different. It's wider, brighter and has a more expansive and experimental menu. There's garlic-laced ribs, still dripping with its juices and mouth-wateringly tender; *kohol sa gata* (snails in coconut milk); scallops, Japanese dishes and more—not just your usual *sisig* and *inihaw na panga*. On weekend nights, the queues are impressively long; reservations are impossible.

"What's surprising, may I add," continues Gerry, "is that you'd think with all these new grilleries and that 'revolutionary' thing we did—supposedly—we'd kill the old grilleries of the past. But no, they're very much alive. You go to IBP, Syfus, *buhay pa rin yon*; you go there, the place is still packed!. So it's not like we made it at the expense of other people. The market is just bigger now. It's actually very reassuring for us that the concept is long-lasting."

Indeed, the concept is so basic—"*ulam, kanin, ihaw*"—anybody could certainly succeed. How can anyone go wrong with serving char-grilled meats, seafood and beer? Here's how: by not really liking what one does. But Gerry loves it. He loves the food, he loves the people. To this day, he still makes the rounds at tables. "And that's not a PR thing, although it would have that effect, but I do it because I just like meeting people. To gain new friends—that's the fun part." Certainly the best thing that this habit has brought him was meeting his wife Grace. "I gained a lot of friends, was supplied a wife, and now I have a daughter!" he says, beaming. Celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck is said to possess the same qualities which likewise explains his longevity in the high-profile Hollywood scene.

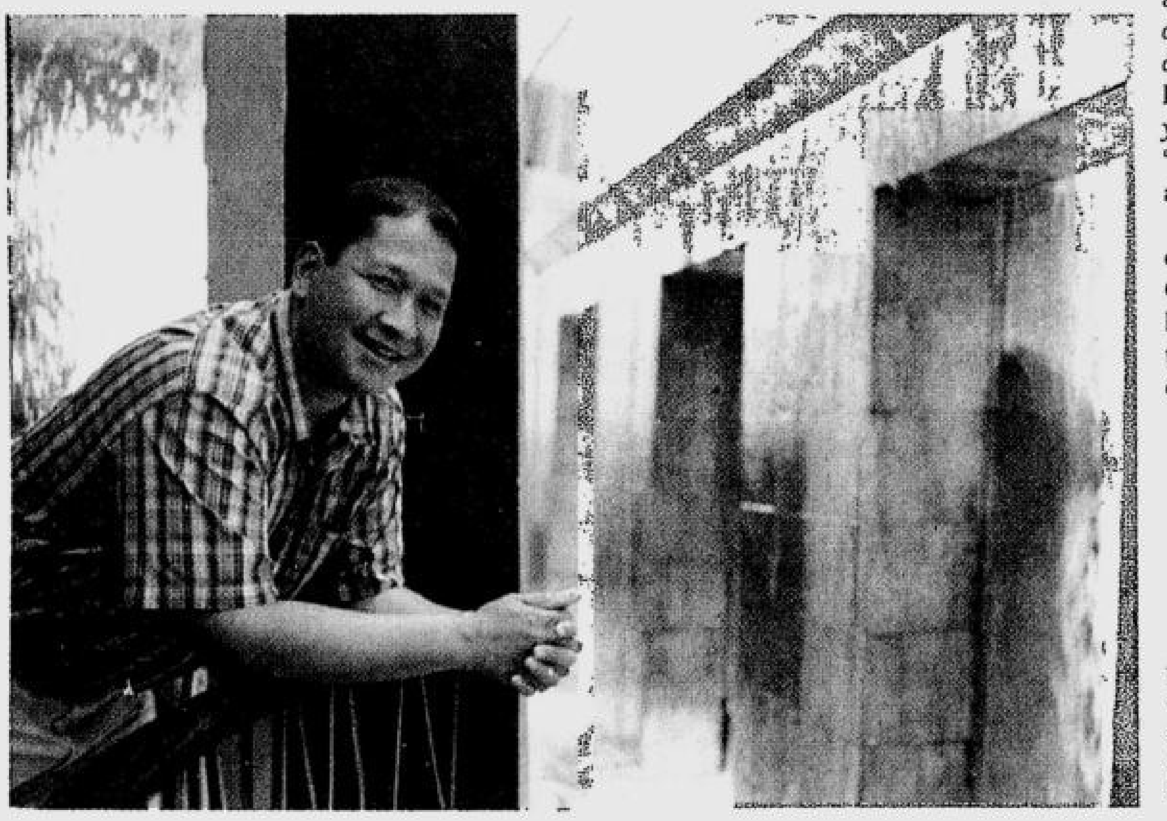
Offering his spicy crispy *pata* not just to the A-crowd, Gerry is no Wolfgang Puck. Instead of Ma Maison, the chef du grill's training ground was informal gatherings with friends. "I was always the designated cook in college," says this Business Administration graduate of Miriam College, "and everybody was happy because while they were drinking, I'd be throwing something on the grill. It was fine because I really liked it, then eventually, when there were parties, special occasions, out-of-town (trips), people would request me to cook. That's how it started until I came up with my own recipes, which multiplied, until it became Gerry's.

"I really like to cook and visit restaurants, any restaurant. I wasn't thinking, 'let's go do this, because it's a stable business.' It was more of a passion, and then when it became successful to a certain extent, the business side came in. We knew it was going to be feasible and long-lasting only after a few years."

Before the success tales, there were stories of seminal struggles: recipes put together and taste-tested right in Gerry's own garage, followed by almost-sleepless nights for a year. In a previous interview, he recounts how he would rise at 6 am, get ready to conduct interviews for his family's business of maritime safety equipment (FM Apolinario, Inc.), conduct taste tests from 4 pm to 12 midnight, do some self-study on the restaurant biz until 2 am, and start the whole rigmarole again after four hours.

When the first Gerry's outlet opened for its first Sunday lunch four weeks into operation, he discovered that his purchaser failed to acquire—of all things—fish for the day's operations. Gerry stripped off his Sunday best, donned his *palengke* attire ("*tsinelas* galore, *sando*, shorts"), and trooped to Farmer's Market to buy the stock himself. He was busy haggling with a vendor when his cooks appeared and blew his cover. "O, sir, *ano pong ginagawa nyo dito*? (what are you doing here?)" "*Nasira kaagad yung* image *ko*," he laughs, "but I still managed to get a good price."

In the early days, too, one could chance upon Gerry fanning the coals himself. He still does the taste tests himself, however, and still goes to the market—except that these days, it's "for personal reasons, not for the business anymore."



Thrill of the grill: Gerry, photographed at his upscale resto Aresi, has a lot to smile about

***Ihaw-ihaw* capital: Gerry's grill draws customers wherever it opens**

Now that his original staff of four has multiplied several times over, Gerry can rely on other people for different tasks. "I delegate a lot," he explains. "I make it a point to give my associates, my managers, my directors, that freedom, that space, to spread their wings. I like to appoint people and train them well, so that that person can have the chance to be creative and use his talents well enough. I—on the other hand, when I'm sure that work has been done—can have time to actually look at the forest and not just the trees, so I can explore more business ventures. I can look at the bigger picture."

With a restaurant so eponymously known, one would think that Gerry's success is all his own—a perception that he's quick to refute. "It's always a team. You can never have anything without having a team with you. You can never do anything alone, actually. I don't only mean the team working for me, but I also include my partners. They pull their friends to us, 'hey try our products, try our restaurants' and all that. That's the teamwork there."

That same teamwork is behind the success of Aresi (Greek for "I like"), the Grill's more cosmopolitan sister that serves Mediterannean-Continental cuisine and which Gerry put up in 2000. It's garnered a reputation for being "the resto of the stars" on account of its being situated behind ABS-CBN and a stone's throw away from GMA-7. It has also become the preferred meeting place among politicians, up-and-coming corporate types and the dating crowd, who give a premium to ambiance.

Meanwhile, other Gerry's outlets mushroomed: Jupiter St., Makati; Libis, Quezon City; Alabang. Not that his business was immune to the crisis. "We were affected, definitely," Gerry admits, "but you just have to weather it out, because I'm confident that the economic climate is going to improve. So hopefully by the second, third quarter of this year, things are going to stabilize and be better."

Within that time period, expect another Aresi to crop up in Greenbelt. Gerry's Grill will also be going exo-Manila via Cebu, San Fernando, and Gerry's favorite weekend haunt, Subic. "We were able to get a really prime area, seafront, so we're very excited about that. We're going to have white sand in front, watersports facilities (he teamed up with two other watersports groups for the project), then on a nice summer night, we can have barbeque by the beach, very exciting!" Although he has his hands on a glass of water, you can mentally picture him rubbing his palms together in glee.

Because this new outlet is where Gerry will probably find himself coming full-circle, and discovering the apex of satisfaction in his work. Lording it over at the grill, taking in the sun, sand and sea, it will be like the good ol' college days when he was just a "designated cook doing all the work" for the guys. Only this time, he's got his own restaurant in the background, with Grace and daughter Sophia to keep him company. A king's never had it so good. Q

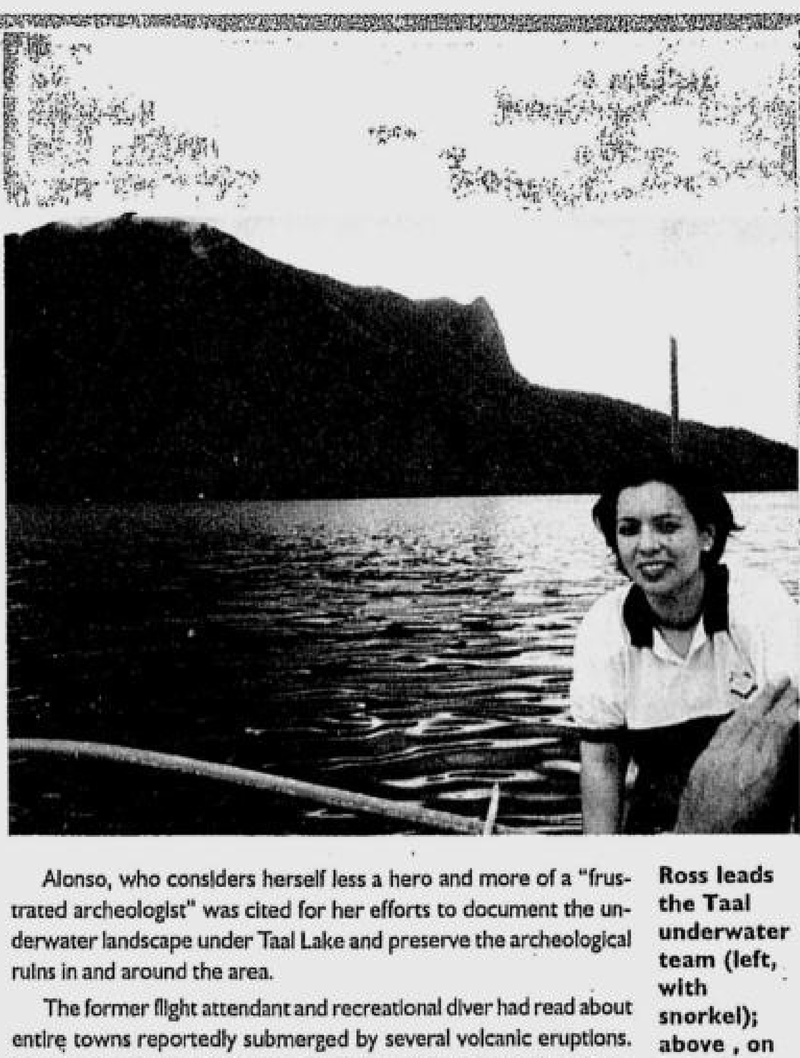
Noteworthy

Lady of the Lake

Reader's Digest Everyday Hero for January Ross Harper Alonso plumbs the depths of Taal Lake to discover the past and preserve it for future generations

"I thought Reader's Digest was calling because I had not paid for my subscription," laughingly recalls Ross Harper-Alonso, of the day she learned that she had been chosen one of the Magazine's Everyday Heroes for January.

LESTER LEDESMA



BONG DIZON

Ross leads the Taal underwater team (left, with snorkel); above , on Lake Taal

Alonso, who considers herself less a hero and more of a "frustrated archeologist" was cited for her efforts to document the underwater landscape under Taal Lake and preserve the archeological ruins in and around the area.

The former flight attendant and recreational diver had read about entire towns reportedly submerged by several volcanic eruptions. Gathering a group of like-minded divers, Alonso formed the non-profit Philippine Underwater Archeological Conservation Society and went on to lead dozens of diving expeditions into the murky waters of the lake.

"I want to educate people about how special and unique Taal is, how it has so many archeological and geological treasures we know so little about. The flora and fauna are also in danger. I want my children to grow up in a beautiful country and I'm tired to waiting for someone to do something about it," says Alonso, a mother of two. The dives have so far yielded shards of Ming Dynasty ceramics from a 17th century Spanish fort on Taal's southern shore. The group also discovered that structures thought to be walls and churches are actually natural volcanic formations, a finding supported by no less than Eusebio Dizon of the National Museum. "I am in no position to correct Dr. Thomas Hargrove's theories about underwater buildings in the lake but when I contacted him in the States, he did not volunteer any information to help me retrace his steps," recalls Alonso who describes herself as "relentless." The rebuff made her more determined to explore Taal and prove this foreigner wrong, adds this 37-year-old Journalism graduate.

Recognition from Readers' Digest has somewhat made the task easier. "I didn't think I was making any progress because the archaeological ruins are collapsing and the locals don't seem to care. But Reader's Digest saw the value of my work so my story must have rekindled some interest and awareness among people. But I can't say I'm truly successful in saving Taal Lake until the government and private groups get involved."

Then there are the extras. Exploring Taal has given this self-confessed adventure-seeker another excuse to get out of the city: "To be in open space, to see the moon and stars in a clear evening." Conversely, there's a downside: "The locals take advantage of us. *Inuuto kami*. They're missing the point that we're doing something for the town. Instead they see us as walking peso signs."

But support from her family more than makes up for that slight. Husband Jon, a pilot, makes time to stay with the kids when Ross loads up the van with her diving stuff, while her eldest son has dug up a book on volcanoes to help mom choose the next volcano she'll get into.

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz